The Middlebury Campus

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MICHAEL O'HARA

On May 4, students gathered outside the Service Building, the location of the Community Judicial Board, to show solidarity and support for the the group of students who were on trial that day for their involvement in the March 2 protests against Dr. Charles Murray.

Second Wave of Murray Protesters Face Discipline

By Will DiGravio
News Editor

A group of 19 students have been placed on probation for the remainder of the academic year, plus an additional two semesters, after the Community Judicial Board found them guilty of violating college policy by participating in the March 2 protests against Dr. Charles Murray.

The students were notified of their punishment on Friday, May 5, the day after they testified before the Judicial Board as a group.

Probation is a form of unofficial college discipline that consists of a student having a letter placed in their file. If a student violates another college policy while on probation, they may be subject to official college discipline. The letter remains in the student's file until graduation.

In a typical judicial hearing, respondents — the official term for students who have been charged with violating the College Handbook — are allowed to invite a "support person." However, due to the large number of respondents, the College allowed the group to invite a maximum of five support persons. The respondents opted to invite Sujata Moorti, professor of gender, sexuality and feminist studies, Jamie McCallum, assistant professor of sociology, Linus Owens, associate professor of sociology, Darién Davis, professor of history, and Patricia Saldarriaga, professor of Spanish.

The hearing, which lasted roughly four hours, started at 6 p.m. on Thursday night. As students entered the hearing, they were provided with a packet of evidence that included photographs, screenshots, links to videos and a description of the charges that were being brought against them.

The meeting began with an opening statement by the respondents. According to one respondent, the students spent roughly 20 hours over the course of four to five days drafting the statement prior to the hearing. They were allowed fifteen minutes to make their opening remarks. Prior to the hearing, the group had chosen a few respondents to read their statement.

Respondents were then given a letter, written by Dean of the College Katy Smith Abbott, that outlined the charges that were being brought against them by the College. They were afforded an opportunity to read the letter prior to the start of the hearing.

Students were facing official college discipline for participating in the events of March 2, which the College viewed as two separate protests. The first is the protest that prevented Murray from speaking after he took the stage. The second is the one that continued in Wilson Hall as the College live-streamed a conversation between Murray and Allison Stanger, professor of international politics and economics. The group consisted of students who participated in both protests.

Prior to the start of the hearing, students accepted that they violated the "Demonstrations and Protests" section of the College Handbook. The hearing was to determine the type of sanction that they would receive, not to dispute their involvement in the protests.

Members of the Judicial Board and respondents then engaged in a question and answer session. Respondents had the ability to discuss their answers to the questions as a group, however, they designated a few specific members to provide the answers.

Per the College's Judicial Handbook Policy, each respondent then had the opportunity to have a character reference speak on their behalf. All 19 respondents had a char-

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Students and Administrators Discuss Restorative Justice

By Nick Garber and Elaine Velie
News Editors

In the wake of the disciplinary proceedings for student protests of Charles Murray, administrators and students have renewed past discussions about implementing restorative justice and restorative practices at the College.

These two terms are often used interchangeably, and their difference can sometimes be ambiguous. However, restorative justice is often defined as consisting of community-building alternatives to punitive action after an incident, while restorative practices refer to broader efforts to cultivate relationships and prevent conflict.

When it comes to the use of such policies in response to the Murray protests, however, students and administrators have articulated differing understandings of restorative justice and whether or not it could be applied retroactively.

In a conversation with *The Campus*, Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of the College Katy Smith Abbott focused largely on restorative practices, which she characterized as a holistic "culture shift" that would not necessarily impact the basic structure of the judicial process. Though Smith Abbott stressed that she, like others in the community, is still gaining a fuller understanding of restorative practices, she expressed a reluctance to apply them immediately to the protests.

"We're in a really tough moment now where many of us can say, 'Oh, if we'd already had restorative practices on this campus we would have had different kinds of conversations, post-March 2, that could have potentially influenced the judicial process,'" Smith Abbott said. "We are not comfortable saying we're going to implement [restorative practices] in a rush." She cited the advice of experts in restorative practices, with whom administrators have consulted, as the reasoning for taking a slower approach to implementation.

Rather than changing existing judicial procedures, Smith Abbott expects these practices to provide additional avenues for dealing with conflict. "It's expanding the menu considerably, so that we have different resources and competencies to be able to ensure that we care for individuals and communities," she said.

Even if restorative practices were applied retroactively to Murray protesters, she noted, "It's not to say that there would be no judicial sanction for a policy violation, but [only] that the conversation would be informed by this work."

In recent weeks, however, student advocates have advanced their own interpretation. A flier distributed throughout campus, titled "No Discipline Without Justice," demands that the College "immediately halt its official disciplinary process and reconsider all discipline leveled against Mar. 2 protest-

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SGA DEBATES THE FUTURE OF FREE SPEECH ON CAMPUS

By Kyle Naughton
Senior Writer

On April 30, Feb Senator Rae Aaron '19.5, First Year Senator Jack Goldfield '20, and Ivan Valladares '17 presented their Academic Freedom and Viewpoint Diversity Resolution to the Student Government Association (SGA). The legislation called for Middlebury College to reaffirm its commitment to the preservation of free speech by allowing outside speakers to present controversial views without fear of disruptive protest.

The bill's cosponsors argued that such a resolution would work towards fostering an open and inclusive atmosphere where opposing viewpoints may be properly debated without the presence of censorship or unruly violence. Proponents for the resolution asserted that the goals of free speech and social justice are not mutually exclusive and that this resolution would still protect students' right to constructive protest.

"The resolution brought forward was one which we felt could lay the framework for any conversation on campus through reaffirming Middlebury's commitment to free and diverse speech," Senator Goldfield said. "We branded this resolution as one about discus-

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FACULTY AND STAFF APPRECIATION AWARD WINNERS

MICHAEL BORENSTEIN

At the Faculty and Staff Appreciation Award ceremony on May 5, Associate Chaplain Rabbi Ira Schiffer (pictured) received the Rodney and Beverly DeGray Staff Appreciation Award and Assistant Professor of Geology Will Midon received the Majorie Lamberti Faculty Appreication Award.

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COMMUNITY COUNCIL

By John Gosselin
Community Council Correspondent

At Community Council's May 2 meeting, Associate Professor of French William Poulin-Deltour introduced a letter from faculty which suggests taking several steps to prepare the College for changes to immigration policy under the Trump administration. The steps include establishing a response team of faculty and staff, devising a naturalization resource program and developing ways to further involve the community in response to immigration policy changes. After Poulin-Deltour introduced a revised draft on May 9, it was unanimously approved.

Assistant Professor of American Studies J Finley presented a recommendation proposing the development of a module for first-year Faculty Orientation intended to teach new faculty to avoid language and actions that assume socioeconomic homogeneity in the student body. After Community Council reached out to would-be affected parties, the "Recommendation for Faculty Training in Socioeconomic Issues" was passed.

Travis Sanderson '19, the student co-chair, then presented a recommendation that the Admissions Office create a working group charged with developing a new pamphlet by the end of next academic year for low-income students. This new pamphlet would list resources available to low-income students and potential estimated family contributions instead of just the price of attending and room and board. The Community Council tabled this recommendation.

Katy Smith Abbott, Faculty Co-Chair and Dean of the College, brought up the response to the financial aid recommendation sponsored by Charles Rainey '19 and passed at the last meeting. An official from the financial services office responded that the reason Middlebury could not change its policies to those suggested by the recommendation was because the College participates in an agreement with its peer institutions. This agreement is in place because it standardizes financial aid policies between need-blind colleges.

At the May 9 meeting, Smith Abbott provided an update on funding for Winter Term internships. She said she is working with the administration to implement a pilot program for funding for-credit internships during J-Term. The specific program has not yet been created but Smith Abbott says she will continue to work out specific details over the summer.

After a brief conversation on the potential of introducing a recommendation relating to laundry in the next session, the conversation shift to the recommendation previously considered on May 2 concerning financial aid changes. Smith Abbott said that the consortium with which the College is currently affiliated, the 568 Group, does not use the standards in the recommendation. She added that changing the ability-to-pay model to a willingness-to-pay model would drastically affect the College's financial situation. Sanderson amended the recommendation to fit better these considerations.

After discussion between Smith Abbott, Sanderson and Charles Rainey '19, Tim Parsons said that he was uncomfortable with considering the recommendation because he felt he did not have enough information to have an informed opinion on it. He said that he wanted to have more conversations about this issue and that it should not be rushed.

Community Council voted to create a committee co-chaired by the SGA President and Community Council Co-Chair to consider this recommendation further.

Community Council voted unanimously to approve the committee. Community Council voted on the recommendation itself but the motion failed.

Monterey Boosts Enrollment, Growing Revenue

By Ethan Brady
News Editor

Editor's Note: This article is the fourth and final in a series that examines the current financial state of the College.

MONTEREY, Calif. — Enrollment at the Middlebury Institute of International Studies has increased over the past three years as part of a revenue-growing program. The increases coincide with a budget crisis facing the Middlebury corporation, which has been forced to cut spending and find new revenue streams.

Monterey became an affiliate of the College in December 2005, when its enrollment totaled 698 full-time students. That number peaked at 788 in fall 2008, and declined over all during the Great Recession until it reached a low of 661 in 2014, when the Institute adopted a new enrollment strategy. It grew to 673 in the school year beginning in fall 2015, and this year is currently at 740. Enrollment is expected to grow by 7 percent for the next academic year, to 795, according to Rebecca Henriksen, the Institute's dean of enrollment.

Tuition, room and board for the coming school year costs $54,666. Other expenses make the total estimated cost $62,022, according to the Institute's website. A cost section on the website says that 88 percent of Monterey students receive scholarships, including merit awards and need-based financial aid.

In December 2013, Middlebury revised its governance structure to incorporate Monterey under one of three trustee committees known as Boards of Overseers. The College, the Language Schools and the Institute each is governed by one of these boards, which convene in Old Chapel three times per year when the trustees arrive. Middlebury leadership considers its three constituent institutions as "One Middlebury" in all of its decisions and discussions.

"Monterey is an important part of the Middlebury family," Henriksen said. "While the enrollment growth at the Institute is a part of a broader revenue generation plan for Middlebury, the expectation is that the Institute should be managed in such a way to be financially healthy and viable on its own."

The Institute has partnered with international education programs like the Peace Corps, AmeriCorps, the Fulbright program and Teach for America since it adopted new strategies in 2014. Jeff Dayton-Johnson, the Institute's dean, said that these "institutional partnerships" were intended to increase the number of applications, especially from high-quality applicants who fit the Institute's mission of global engagement.

Officials at Monterey also professionalized the admissions recruiting process and the Institute's overall marketing strategy, Dayton-Johnson said. He attributed the increased enrollment since 2014 to these measures, along with the strategic partnerships and a greater use of technology in the admissions office. Administrators plan to ensure that enrollment reaches desired levels by continuing these tactics.

"It starts with having a very clear enrollment target and a shared responsibility for meeting the target," Dayton-Johnson said. He said the Institute was committed to strategies like marketing, monitoring of enrollment indicators and strong partnerships. "We also need to keep our eyes open to the skills, competencies and academic areas that prospective students and employers are looking for," he said.

As it works to increase enrollment, the Institute is working to attract students from other Middlebury schools under what Dayton-Johnson called a fundamental relationship. The Institute guarantees a $10,000 "legacy" scholarship to graduates of any Middlebury school and their family members. It also offers an accelerated graduate degree option for graduates of the College, who can complete a master's degree at the Institute more quickly than other students — in about one-and-a-half years, Dayton-Johnson said.

A growing number of current Middlebury College students are participating in academic programs at the Institute. These include courses taught simultaneously on both campuses by faculty from both Middlebury and Monterey — one of them, titled "Water in an Insecure World," was offered this spring. Students at the College can also participate in "study away" at Monterey for the term, and a summer internship at the Institute's Center for Nonproliferation Studies, the leading research institute for nuclear nonproliferation policy.

Will DiGravio contributed reporting.

New Housing Software StarRez Suffers Technical Issue

By Kyle Naughton
Senior Writer

During the scheduled housing registration period on Tuesday, April 25, the new StarRez housing software suffered a glitch that prevented students from signing into their accounts. Students across multiple grades could not gain access to the StarRez sign-in interface, and once it became clear that the problem was not isolated but system-wide, the administration shut down the software entirely.

Prior to April 25, multiple tests had been conducted to ensure the StarRez software was running properly. The housing registration slot was originally pushed back to allow this extra week of testing, and the software appeared to be fully functioning for each respective grade level during the testing period.

"[The administration] went through a testing phase to make sure that everything worked," said Doug Adams, associate dean of students for residential and student life. "We were able to test all aspects [of the software] during the extra week, and everything was fine."

However, when students attempted to register on Tuesday, few could even sign into their StarRez accounts.

"When we launched on Tuesday," Adams said, "there was immediately a great number of students who could not gain access to the sign-in wizard, preventing them from accessing the system. As soon we determined it was a system-wide issue, we shut [the program] down."

In response to the shutdown, the administration contacted the software vendor to help troubleshoot the issue and eventually managed to get the system back online and running smoothly. Any room draws that managed to be processed during the initial period on Tuesday were removed after the shutdown.

"We are still trying to figure out exactly what happened [during the crash]," Adams said. "We were able to reset the system and then retest the entire program to make sure it all worked."

The afternoon after the system was shut down, the administration sent out an email containing students' new housing selection time slots. These selection periods were kept in their original order, but were all moved to Wednesday, April 26.

While Wednesday's draw ran smoothly for rising juniors and seniors, a time slot for Brainerd Commons sophomores still encountered a small number of isolated issues.

"When we relaunched, there was one brief hold up within the sophomore drawing process," Adams said. "It didn't affect the juniors or seniors at all, but just impacted sophomore students within one time slot of the Brainerd draw. We were then able to address the individual issues of those students within that time slot."

Going forward, the administration intends to further incorporate students' opinions on both StarRez and the housing process itself.

"We will be reviewing the amount of time allocated for each time block," Adams said, "as well as continuing to take in student feedback."

Midd Mayhem 2017

Thursday:
-Kickoff Bonfire @ Ross Lawn 8-10 P.M.

Saturday:
-Pig Roast and Music from the Big Sip @ Battell Loop 5:30-8:30 P.M.

Friday:
-Petting Zoo, Mechanical Bull, Lawn Games @ Battell Beach 3-5 P.m.
-Outdoor Concert featuring Sean Kingston @ Battell Loop 8 p.m.

Sunday:
-Color Run @ AFC 11 A.M.
-Holi Festival and Food Trucks @ Battell Beach 12-2 P.M.

SGA VOTES DOWN VIEWPOINT DIVERSITY RESOLUTION

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sion."

The strongest opponents of the bill argued that it would threaten students' right to justified and necessary disruptive protest in the future in favor of an ill-defined notion of free speech. Many senators also felt uncomfortable about voting on this legislation while many Middlebury students faced charges related to the Charles Murray protests.

When the Senate reconvened on May 7th, the resolution's cosponsors were intent on putting their legislation to a vote despite President Toy's suggestion that they table it for next year. Senator Aaron and Senator Goldfield asserted that many of their constituents desired such a reaffirmation now, and that pushing off the vote would only be perceived as an aversion to discussing free speech.

President Toy then proposed the inclusion of a friendly amendment regarding community wellbeing and an unfriendly amendment that called for the removal of certain "whereas" clauses. Senators may propose unfriendly amendments to proposed legislation that the Senate may vote to include; if the authors accept these amendments, the changes become friendly amendments. After the cosponsors of the bill rejected this unfriendly amendment, the resolution was brought to a vote and eventually rejected with a tally of 9 opposed, 6 in favor, and 4 abstained.

Senator Aaron was particularly disappointed by these results. While she admitted that the resolution did not attempt to define free speech or hate speech, she still considered this resolution to be a necessary step towards countering the divide on campus regarding social justice and the freedom of expression.

"The fact that this resolution on free speech and viewpoint diversity didn't pass is quite concerning," said Senator Aaron. "It really brought to light the failure on behalf of the SGA to unify around the importance — especially for marginalized voices on campus — of having the right to express ourselves, exercising judgment on what is appropriate."

Senator Aaron also expressed her dissatisfaction with the way in which fellow senators approached the resolution after it was first presented on April 30.

"Senator Pustejovsky cowardly refused to share the resolution with her junior class constituents and attempted to table the resolution in the middle of our conversation," Aaron said. "President Toy had all week to propose friendly amendments, and instead chose to force unfriendly amendments to undermine the integrity of the resolution's message. [Also,] the Senators who sponsored a bill on updating College protest policies failed to even show up to the [May 8] meeting [to vote]."

Ivan Valladares '17 echoed Senator Aaron's concerns, interpreting the SGA's approach towards the legislation as an offense against freedom of speech within Middlebury.

"Narrow interests and cowardice at the SGA attempted to make this resolution irrelevant," Valladares said, "instead of utilizing this opportunity to establish a much-needed baseline on how to proceed with dialogue on campus. Short-term pursuits have limited students to regard free speech as a dispensable issue, or worst, a partisan ploy."

> ***"For me, the college community has not even scratched the surface on what free speech means to us, and what it should look like on this campus."***
>
> HANNAH PUSTEJOVSKY '18
> JUNIOR SENATOR

Senator Pustejovsky, who voted against the resolution, argued that such legislation was presented at a particularly difficult time on campus when many Murray protestors are going before the judicial board.

"For me, the college community has not even scratched the surface on what free speech means to us, and what it should look like on this campus," said Senator Pustejovsky. "Pushing a bill through Senate to make a statement about [free speech] left me feeling out of touch with the greater conversation as a whole. I also was worried about the way protest as a viewpoint was clearly undervalued and rejected in this bill, which felt like it was ignoring the larger issue at hand."

Senator Fleischer echoed many of Senator Pustejovsky's concerns regarding the bill's timing, adding that such legislation would contradict the Protest Policy Reform Bill passed on April 23.

"Just a few of [the resolution's] problems," Fleischer said, "[regarded its position] that non-violent disruptive protest is never justified, its direct contradiction to the recently passed Protest Policy Reform bill, and its asking for administration to 'enforce the policies as set forth in the Student Handbook.'"

Senator Wilson disagreed that the resolution was presented at an inappropriate time, attributing attempts to table the bill to fears of negative mainstream media coverage.

"I think there was an effort to table the bill until next year," Wilson said, "because some think it reflects poorly on the College for a bill affirming free speech to fail. [Certain] senators said they believed it was an inappropriate and insensitive time to pass such a bill when so many students are currently going before the judicial board. I understand that argument, but I think it is overly concerned with perceptions and optics of the bill rather than with what the bill is actually saying."

President Toy maintained that the bill was introduced too quickly to properly address the issue of free speech on campus.

"My biggest concern was that this bill was be being voted on at the same time that the judicial proceedings against students involved in the protests are occurring," President Toy said. "This was a very comprehensive bill being voted on in a fairly rushed manner, when the student body has just started making progress in conversations on what free speech means. I would rather Senate get it right than vote down a well-written but not yet perfected bill, which is unfortunately what happened."

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE DISCUSSED

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ers." The flier also calls for the implementation of restorative practices, which, it asserts, "can radically and progressively change the College's culture." Additionally, in solidarity with students facing discipline, organizers at the Chellis House distributed armbands and pins reading "RJ," for restorative justice.

"Without restorative practices, there is no long-term institutional change that will last and address sufficiently the pain and harm currently felt among segments of our community," said Travis Sanderson '19, who has been heavily involved in the student advocacy.

"Fortunately, we are moving forward as a College with restorative practices," he continued. "Just not quickly enough."

The administration's consideration of these topics may have its origins in a December 2015 town hall discussion with President of Middlebury Laurie L. Patton. At that time, Patton raised the possibility of implementing restorative justice in the context of bias and cultural appropriation, noting that restorative justice "focuses less on the idea of legal violation and more on the ideas of community and repair."

In the spring of 2016, a four-step plan was created for implementing these practices at Middlebury. According to that plan, restorative practices "seek to build relationships and a sense of community in order to prevent future wrongdoings or conflict." In addition, they aim to "reduce, prevent, and improve harmful behavior, repair harm and restore relationships and resolve conflict and hold groups and individuals accountable."

Ultimately, however, due to financial restrictions, the College was unable to move forward with the plan. Its $30,000 price tag was impractical as concerns surfaced College's financial difficulties, and the timing of the proposal would have required that it receive discretionary funding rather than simply being included in the annual budget.

Thus, the College has yet to implement the proposed plan, which would take about a year to complete. "We would need to have at least fifty trained facilitators on campus to address any conflict or concern using restorative justice practices," Dean of Students Baishakhi Taylor said in an email. "It would take about twelve to sixteen months to get this many colleagues trained and create appropriate scaffolding of support around the practice before implementing it."

Student advocates have cited Patton's 2015 words as evidence for the benefits of restorative practices. In response, while Smith Abbott acknowledged the "understandable desire to say that this thing that the president f irst named as restorative justice could be implemented right now," she concluded, "I don't see the things as antagonistic — restorative practices and an approach to college policy violations being adjudicated by a community board."

Still, Smith Abbott left open the possibility that the implementation of restorative practices could change the course of future judicial processes. "In terms of how restorative practices would impact the outcome of policy violations, I think that's very real," she said. "I think that's where the Judicial Affairs Officers and the Dean of Students, in conversation with me and probably several others, would determine how we balance a desire to uphold college policies ... with the primary goal of any disciplinary process, which is individual growth, education, community and the repair of any fissure that has occurred."

Protesters Disciplined

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acter reference.

While a majority of the references were faculty members, some were staff members and adults from outside the Middlebury community — 16 references were in attendance and three sent letters. They each had four minutes to speak and were called into the hearing separately. Character references were not allowed to talk about the events of March 2, nor any other information or events that did not directly relate to a respondent's character.

Respondents were then allowed to deliver a closing statement. According to those involved, the students drafted a rough outline prior to the hearing, however, they were able to adjust their statement throughout the hearing based on the proceedings. *The Campus* was unable to obtain a copy of the opening and closing statements, although those involved said that they may be released soon.

Once the hearing concluded, members of the Judicial Board spent over two hours deliberating, according to one person familiar with the situation.

As of press time, individual hearings for those involved with both protests have yet to take place. It is unclear when these hearings will take place and how many students opted for an individual hearing.

Though this is the final print issue of the academic year, The Campus *will continue coverage of this story online at www.middleburycampus.com.*

NJF To Host 8th Annual Showcase

By Sabine Poux
Arts and Sciences Editor

The fellows of the eighth annual Middlebury Fellowship in Narrative Journalism will present their year-long radio documentary projects to the Middlebury community on Friday, May 12 in the Axinn Winter Garden from 4 to 6 p.m. The fellows — Matthew Blake '17, Will DiGravio '19, Izzy Fleming '17 and Tabitha Mueller '18 — have crafted digital portraits of 13 students after asking them the event's titular question, "How Did You Get Here?"

Middlebury Scholar-in-residence Sue Halpern and Middlebury Magazine Editorial Director Matt Jennings founded the The Middlebury Fellowship in Narrative Journalism in 2008 and have been co-directing it since. The fellowship teaches students how to conduct narrative journalism projects using interviews and digitally-based media. The fellows work with Halpern throughout the year to learn the basics of radio production and narrative journalism.

For their projects, the fellows drew on interviewees' personal stories to create vibrant portraits of the paths that led them to the College. When presented, these profiles will give the greater Middlebury community a look into the diversity of experiences among students at the College and will honor the myriad of backgrounds and stories that students have to share.

> ***"The relationship you can nurture with a human voice is far deeper than I would have ever anticipated."***
>
> IZZY FLEMING '17
> NARRATIVE JOURNALISM FELLOW

"The Narrative Journalism Fellowship offers a solution for the divide that exists between ourselves and others, a divide which prevents the story of us to take place," Blake said. "It creates a space for students to engage with their peer's stories and develop an awareness of, as well as appreciation for, the multiplicity of stories and experiences on Middlebury's campus."

The audio-based medium the fellows used in their documentation allowed for narration that was completely story-focused.

"Learning the unique power of audio storytelling is my biggest take-away," Fleming said. "Unlike other forms of expression, there is no room for prejudice when listening to someone talk. You can't evaluate their level of education, identify their race, or notice how expensive their watch is. Instead, the human voice puts everyone on an (relatively) even playing field. It is an incredibly intimate medium, and the relationship you can nurture with a human voice is far deeper than I would have ever anticipated at the beginning of the year before this fellowship began."

The student profiles will be between five and six minutes each. This may not be enough time to tell the entirety of a person's story, Blake said, but it is enough time to spark meaningful discussions.

"After listening to one of this year's pieces about a Football player," he remarked, "a student commented, 'I had no idea that someone on the Football team would write poetry or be so open about his emotions. . . . Do you think that he'd be willing to talk with me if I asked him some questions?'"

Hundreds Attend Annual Maple Run

By James Finn
Contributing Writer

The Middlebury Maple Run, an annual half marathon, took place in and around Middlebury on Sunday, May 7, beginning at 9 a.m. The race covered 13.1 miles that started on South Street, passed the University of Vermont Morgan Horse Farm, passed down Weybridge Street for a section and looped through Middlebury's campus before ending behind Porter Hospital, according to the Maple Run website.

Co-race director Sue Hoxie said that the race organizers have tried to add new components each year. "We try to add something new or different each year to keep the event fresh," Hoxie said. "Over the years we've added the 2-person relay race, the 3M Fun Run, [which is] new this year, finishers' medals, the pancake breakfast [and] music along the course from student bands. There are other things we've added that are less apparent to the runners such as improved safety measures, sag wagon, signage along the course, potties along the course."

Conditions were favorable, although runners did have to endure a brief spell of light rain early on in the race, according to runners who participated. In addition to the individuals' half marathon, the Maple Run offered a relay covering the same distance and a 3-mile "Fun Run" that traversed a shorter portion of the course.

Middlebury students were well-represented in the field of runners in the half marathon, with multiple students completing the race among the top ten of all finishers. Ben Arquit '20 took first out of the entire field, finishing the course in 1:21. James Lumley '19 took third, finishing in 1:25, and Jacob Brady '17 finished sixth with a time of 1:26, according to the race's results page.

Runners in the half marathon showcased a range of ability and experience level. Allison Stevens '20.5 hadn't had much competitive running experience prior to training for the Maple Run.

"I had never run a half marathon, but it has always been on my bucket list," Stevens said. "It gave me a goal to work towards."

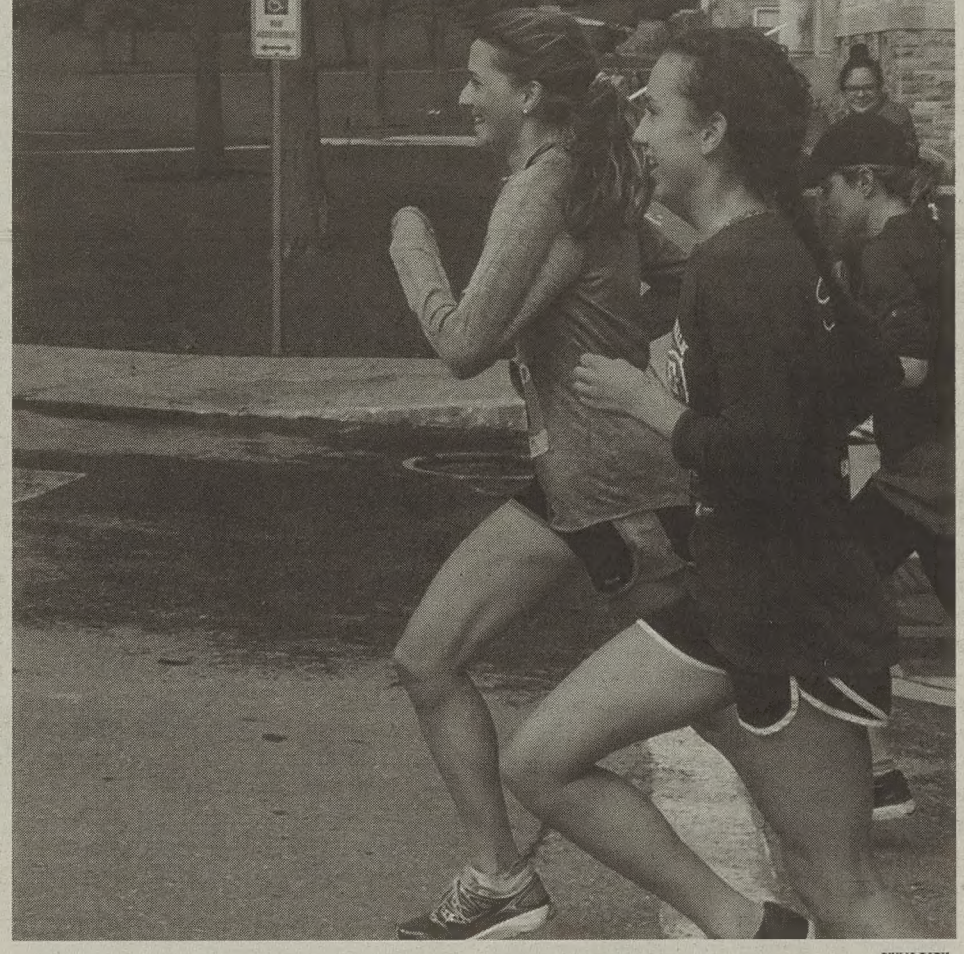
The race does have a time cut-off that, according to the website, encourages an overall competitive field. Runners had to maintain a rough 13-minute mile pace to avoid their times being discounted.

"The majority of the people were running a very decent pace," Stevens said. "The cut-off time was two and a half hours, so no one could really walk or run much slower."

The Maple Run's course took runners on packed dirt roads for about half of the race and cement streets for the other half. Traffic in and around Middlebury was slowed due to road closures on South Street and South Street Extension. Runners said that conditions were decent overall, with light rain falling for some of the race.

"The weather was ideal for a race since it wasn't too hot and slightly rainy," said Julia Sinton '20.5, a Middlebury native who ran the race.

The Maple Run has historically attracted hundreds of runners from around Vermont and the greater New England area. As in years past, participants from Vermont comprised a majority of runners who competed. Middlebury, Burlington, Salisbury and Montpelier were particularly well-represented in the field. The race drew about 700 runners total among the three races offered. The race was sponsored by an array of local organizations and businesses such as Cabot cheese, Two Brothers Tavern, the Addison County Chamber of Commerce and the National Bank of Middlebury, among others.



GIULIA PARK
Many students participated in Sunday's half marathon run that passed through campus.

Hoxie said that the race has had a significant impact on the Middlebury community, from fundraising goals achieved to a tourism uptake.

"When it was founded in 2009 the goal was strictly fundraising and creating an event during tourism's 'shoulder' season to bring people to town during a down time of year," she said. "We've achieved both of those goals. The race has donated about $60K out to local non-profits [since it was founded] and typically 40 percent of the runners come from out of state. "

Sinton shared that the race had a positive, supportive feel that was enhanced by bystander cheering as well as runners cheering for each other. "Running through campus around mile 7 was ideal because that's when I needed a boost, and a lot of my friends and other community members were there yelling with signs," Sinton said. "At one point I saw my first grade teacher cheering runners on and it made me smile."

Vermonters "Green Up" Their Communities

By Amelia Pollard
Contributing Writer

On Saturday, May 6, Vermont residents gathered at busy intersections and the sides of railroad tracks in an effort to "green up" the state. The green trash bags doled out each year by the non-profit organization Green Up Vermont allowed communities to remove the trash that had accumulated in public spaces throughout the year.

Started in 1970 by former Governor Deane C. Davis, Green Up Day has evolved into a Vermont tradition. The annual initiative has grown to become a day when local businesses, families and school groups join together to clean up the creases of the state that silently fill up with unwanted trash.

In order to solidify Green Up Day's place on the state's calendar, former Governor Richard A. Snelling created a 501 (c)3 non-profit called Green Up Vermont to run and organize the event each year in 1979. The organization orchestrates the distribution of trash bags throughout the state, and the event is promoted on local television and radio shows.

"There's something happening in every town — all 251," Melinda Vieux, executive director of Green Up Vermont, said. "Bit by bit, Green Up Day has grown over the years, until in recent years; people in Vermont have started to call it a Vermont icon."

In Middlebury, Charlotte Tate and Peg Martin serve as coordinators between Green Up Vermont and the town in facilitating the cleanup. In her final year as coordinator, Martin leaves behind a strong legacy. "A true force of nature," Vieux said, referring to Martin, who has provided the spark for the town of Middlebury's involvement since the 1970s.

Each year, Martin can be seen tending to her "pet spots," including areas beneath the railroad overpass and along sections of Route 7, all while adorned in her staple Green Up Day regalia: a floppy straw hat decorated with flowers and trash.

Local businesses in Middlebury have encouraged residents to participate in Green Up Day and hosted cookouts for the event. This year, organizers of the Middlebury Maple Run have pledged discounts on the cost of participating in next year's run for those who joined in Green Up Day. As proof, runners simply need to provide a photograph showing them with a green plastic bag filled with collected trash.

Tate, one of the town's coordinators, said that she wished students from Middlebury College were more involved in Green Up Day. "I've tried to bring it up to students here at the College, but it's a very busy time," she said. "The easiest thing is for people to take responsibility for their own travel course. If everybody were to do that, it would make a big difference."

ADDISON INDEPENDENT
Middlebury Green Up's coordinator, Peg Martin, wears special attire, suited for the day.

Although the numbers are still being calculated from this year's Green Up Day, about 22,000 people participated statewide last year.

"There's all this emphasis on numbers, and that's a huge challenge for us," Vieux said. "That number came from town coordinators, and that 22,000 figure is conservative. Rather, it's its aliveness that determines its success."

In passing the baton to the next Green Up Day coordinator for Middlebury, Martin hopes that whoever succeeds her continues to encourage more individuals and groups to be involved.

"I think there's the opportunity to get a lot more people organized," she said. "If you get a group of people going, it goes pretty quickly. You can cover a lot of ground."

Vt. Ranks First for Health Security Preparedness

By Marc Arnold
Staff Writer

For the second year running, Vermont scored highest among the 50 states and District of Columbia in public health protection readiness, according to the latest results from the National Health Security Preparedness Index. Funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the index measures the nation's ability to keep people safe and healthy in the event of epidemics, foodborne disease outbreaks, terrorism and other large-scale public health emergencies.

Overall, Vermont scored 7.7 out of 10 points, compared to the national average of 6.8. The National Health Security Preparedness Index methodology involves collecting, aggregating and measuring existing state-level preparedness data from a wide variety of sources. The index then computes a range of key measures for all 50 states that, taken together, display the broadest and most comprehensive national- or state-level preparedness.

The index's measures are grouped into one of six domains representing broad areas of preparedness activity. First, health security surveillance entails actions to monitor and detect health threats and to identify where hazards start and spread so that they can be contained rapidly. Next, community planning and engagement involves actions to develop and maintain supportive relationships among government agencies, community organizations and individual households and to develop shared plans for responding to disasters and emergencies.

The third domain is called information and incident management, which includes measures to deploy people, supplies, money and information to the locations where they are most effective in protecting health and safety.

Next, healthcare delivery encompasses actions that ensure access to high-quality medical services across the continuum of care during and after disasters and emergencies. The fifth domain is countermeasure management, which comprises efforts to store and deploy medical and pharmaceutical products that prevent and treat the effects of hazardous substances and infectious diseases, including vaccines, prescription drugs, masks, gloves and medical equipment.

The last domain, environmental and occupational health, is composed of actions intended to maintain the security and safety of water and food supplies, to test for hazards and contaminants in the environment and to protect workers and emergency responders from health hazards while on the job.

Vermont was rated higher than the national average in the first five index domains and matched the national average in environmental and occupational health.

Although a great tool for public health policy makers, the index results are not intended for ranking states. According to the report, states face varying threats and therefore should apply common preparedness principles in locally relevant ways.

Even with national plans in place for assisting with emergencies, such as FEMA, each state should be ready for any eventuality.

"All emergencies are local," commented Pam Berenbaum who works as Professor of the Pracictice of Global Health and Coordinator of Global Health programs at the College. "The same storm plays out differently in Vermont than it does in upstate New York or New Hampshire."

Despite improvements in nearly two-thirds of states, significant inequities in preparedness exist across the nation. Generally, states in the Deep South and Mountain West regions — many of which face elevated risks of disasters and contain disproportionate numbers of low-income residents — lag behind Northeast and Pacific Coast states.

Originally developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as a tool to drive dialogue to improve health security and preparedness, the index remains a collaborative effort involving more than 30 organizations. State health officials, emergency management experts, business leaders, nonprofits, researchers and others help shape the index each year through its National Advisory Committee and expert workgroups.

"I was very pleased to see that the biggest improvement for Vermont was in the Community Planning and Engagement domain, because that is where the most powerful response is located," Berenbaum said.

Developing and maintaining supportive relationships among community organizations and individual households for responding to disasters and emergencies is an area that the Index is committed to improving.

The National Health Security Preparedness index has launched a Preparedness Innovator Challenge to collect and spread best practices for using the Index to improve preparedness. Through July 31, users will submit their stories about how they used index findings as a tool to focus efforts and, ultimately, improve health security in their communities.

For more information about the National Health Security Preparedness Index, or the Preparedness Innovator Challenge, visit www.nhspi.org.

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OPINIONS

Disclaimer: Reader op-eds do not reflect the opinion of *The Middlebury Campus* editorial board.

The Importance of Being Wrong

EDITORIAL

The editorial represents the official opinion of the editorial board of The Middlebury Campus.

On April 20, 2017, Professor Bert Johnson wrote in to this paper with an apology. This doesn't happen frequently; we were surprised and moved. Professor Johnson, chair of the Political Science Department, wrote that he regretted the manner in which department co-sponsorship was issued to Charles Murray's speech on campus. "The short amount of time between when the event became public and when it occurred gave all of us scant opportunity to listen to and understand alternative points of view. Most importantly, and to my deep regret, it contributed to a feeling of voicelessness that many already experience on this campus, and it contributed to the very real pain that many people – particularly people of color – have felt as a result of this event."

Professor Johnson's apology is, in many ways, the impetus for this week's editorial. As an editorial board, we would like to thank Professor Johnson for his honesty, candor and courage not in retracting his decision, but in showing vulnerability and conceding that his actions may have caused pain in others. Professor Johnson didn't base his apology in upholding lofty abstract principles, but rather in the fact that he hurt people on this campus. He represents an admirable desire to resist the urge to over-intellectualize issues and instead choose to recognize the pain one can cause, particularly in our small Middlebury community.

Unfortunately, we aren't always very good at doing that. Why should we be? Many members of the Middlebury community got here by succeeding; by sounding smart, by developing transcripts that supposedly "prove" we know things. We argue to win, not to listen. As students, we're pretty collectively insecure about admitting when we don't know things, and we don't make room for others to make mistakes. There's pressure in classrooms, in forums and even in dining hall conversations to prove not only our intellectualism but also that we are "woke" in a kind of verbal posturing that places excessive value on certain kinds of speech, and excludes those who don't have the vocabulary to discuss issues of race, gender, class and so on.

For this, we commend Professor Johnson's humility and his ability to see that offering an apology does not discredit him; rather, it reveals his willingness to put the weight of a reconsidered issue above ego. It reveals not only his humanity but his ability to recognize the humanity in others. In the wake of contentious events like the March 2 protest and the election of Donald Trump, we've seen members of our community go on the defensive and assume the worst in others. We leave little room for nuance, and group people in categories of right or wrong, with us or against us. We misread ignorance as coming from a place of malevolence rather than lack of experience, and create spaces where people of other opinions do not feel safe to express themselves, make mistakes and, most importantly, learn. March 2 happened as it did largely as a result of a specific culture we have developed on this campus. It was a symptom of various issues here, and it will not go away unless we, collectively as a Middlebury community, decide to change the way in which we navigate our differences.

Conversations about the intersections of identity and free speech will continue. Professors: you have a responsibility to create fair spaces in which to address these issues if they come up, ones in which one set of ideas (or a means of expressing those ideas) is not inherently privileged. If you don't know how to do that, admit that you don't know how. We as a student body need our professors to demonstrate to us that it is okay, inevitable and necessary to be confused and even wrong. By doing so, you can uphold the lofty ideals of academic institutions espoused throughout the Charles Murray debate as more than an intellectual value, but a pedagogical practice. You can show us that college is a place for the airing of all views that need to be challenged. Administrators: you have a responsibility to create an environment in which students and faculty are not incentivized to put ego and title above listening. You set the institutional example. You, too, can embody the idea that apologies are examples of strength, not weakness.

Many students on our editorial board recalled their professors expressing a sense of loss or confusion after the 2016 presidential election, an inability to manage discussion or even process what was happening, whether in a classroom setting or otherwise. That kind of honesty and vulnerability is what can make the wounds of this community heal. This is a small college. For students, it's more than a place of learning; it's a 24-hour home. We all feel a sense of responsibility for what happens here. We're going to need to have some hard conversations in the near future, conversations that will take immense emotional labor and vulnerability. These conversations can't and won't happen unless we, as committed members of the Middlebury community, are ready to listen, empathize and learn.

The Middlebury Campus

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A Robust Public Sphere

Editor's note: This column is excerpted from remarks President Laurie L. Patton gave to the Middlebury College faculty in early April. It also appeared in a slightly different form in the spring issue of Middlebury Magazine.

READER OP-ED

***Laurie Patton, President of Middlebury**, writes about free speech on campus.*

The events of March 2 and the ensuing debate about the value of public discourse have not only made national news, but they have set the context for a Middlebury-wide debate over free expression and the values of our community. I am proud we are having this discussion. I see it as a sign of our vitality even as I recognize it has been divisive at times and the source of some difficult discussions. As we end the year, I believe it is important to share my own views on these issues.

A true commitment to education must embrace an uncompromising commitment to free and open dialogue that expands understanding, challenges our assumptions and ultimately creates a more inclusive public sphere.

Controversial speech, or speech by a controversial speaker, can be challenging in a time when the very idea of a public sphere seems fragile. Controversial speech is also more difficult in a time when issues that should be contested and addressed become exclusively owned by "the left" or "the right." In our current state, deep educational commitments, such as exploring the history of oppression and freedom, may be difficult to share as common public goods. But they should be understood as such, and it is our responsibility to teach them and to discuss them with candor. That is the only way we can reach the truth.

There are many struggles playing themselves out on our college campuses: how does one acknowledge the discomfort that a true liberal education must entail, while at the same time recognizing and respecting the often difficult and unfair experiences of our students who have walked in the American margins? Acknowledging and honoring those margins as real spaces is essential. Honoring the study and articulation of those experiences is crucial to our well-being as a society. And in honoring those margins, we must pay attention to hurt, to offense, to accumulated injury. So, how do we relate these two fundamental values—the necessary discomfort of a liberal education and an honoring of the difficult experiences of our students who have walked in the margins? And how do we do so in the context of free speech debates?

Geoffrey Stone, a University of Chicago Law School professor and First Amendment scholar, has cautioned that if we are permitted to silence distasteful views, we risk becoming silenced ourselves. And once censorship becomes acceptable, those most likely to be silenced are our citizens who find themselves in the minority—be they religious, racial or political minorities.

With this in mind, I believe that if there ever was a time for Americans to take on arguments that offend us, it is now. If there ever was a time for us to challenge influential public views with better reason, better research, better logic and better data, it is now. If there ever was a time when we needed to risk being offended, to argue back even while we are feeling afraid, to declare ourselves committed to arguing for a better society, it is now.

The questions that we encounter strike at the very heart of who we are as an institution, and we should take our time to learn, to debate, to understand and to reflect.

In its tradition as an institution of excellence and of courageous engagement, Middlebury must find a way to connect the principles of free speech and the creation of a robust public sphere. I believe we all can agree that education is about exposing students to different ideas and giving them the skills and courage to choose between them. And I believe we all can agree that education should give students the skills and courage to make this a better world. These values are usually not in conflict. However, in our most painful moments, such as the one we experienced in early March, they were indeed conflicting.

In my view, the first of these commitments is a necessary precondition of the second. Education must be free enough to expose students to a wide range of conflicting and even disturbing ideas, for only then will we be able to give our students the wisdom, the resilience and the courage to make this a better world.

I will work tirelessly for both inclusivity and freedom of speech. There are no more important projects than these. But this is possible only if academic freedom and freedom of speech are defended on all sides. It is only through this principle that we will enable our students to reason, to discover new ideas, to argue effectively, to empower themselves and others and to achieve the work of making society more just. In this way, we will, in the long run, create a public sphere that is more inclusive, more vibrant and more engaging. That is, after all, what we are most fundamentally about.

'A' Doesn't Stand for Average

READER OP-ED

SJ Fossett '17 writes in about why seniors should shoot for lower grades.

Before I graduate from Middlebury this spring, my last goal is to get a C on my final transcript. And fellow seniors, if you haven't yet, I think you should try to get a C too.

Not a B-.

Not a C+.

Just a big, fat C.

In the final weeks that remain, I challenge all of us to forgo getting the last A in the classroom so that we can spend a little more time loving ourselves and each other in this wonderful place, and a little less time in the library. The hardest thing to do at Middlebury isn't to get the A; it's to be imperfect and happy.

It's no secret that we, as Middlebury students, are obsessed with perfection. For many on this campus, getting a B+ is a letdown. I'll be the first to admit it; over my four years here I've struggled in this place, where people constantly seem to define themselves (and their peers) only by their successes. Getting great grades is an important part of our individual identities. And it's inevitable, given that the golden ticket to getting into Middlebury in the first place shows off the spoils of near-perfect high school report cards and test scores.

Once accepted students arrive, they find that Middlebury's culture of perfectionism isn't confined to academics; it's about how you look, how athletic you are, how involved you are in student-run clubs and, of course, about with whom you socialize. "She's Phi Beta Kappa," or "He ran the Boston Marathon (in 2 hours and 45 minutes!)" or "He's the one who got the job at Goldman Sachs" are real responses I've received when I've curiously asked, "Who is that?" Answers like these imply that, here, trying and failing is simply not something we do. And by allowing (and even encouraging) us to think this way, Middlebury is also failing us.

My last-semester goal of getting a C is a way of proving to myself that my self-worth is not tied up in an external evaluation of my performance, that who I am is not how I measure up, and that happiness comes from many sources besides academic success. Getting a C isn't about blowing off work or consciously doing a less-than-stellar job; it's about accepting that life is made up of choices. It's about choosing to go skiing on the best powder day of the year, returning to the library after the mountain closes to do three hours of work and then dropping everything to comfort a friend who needs to talk. It's about simply trying something new and struggling along the way. It's about self-care – realizing you are getting sick and choosing to go to bed at midnight instead of 3 AM, studying less (but feeling much better) as a result. And it's about being honest and not bothering to make excuses when work is turned in late or isn't of the highest quality.

When I look back on my time at Middlebury, I'll remember snowy Sunday afternoons on Ski Patrol, growing YouPower into the organization that it is today, and laughing with friends over wine and home-cooked meals. My biggest regret during my four years here? Not spending enough time doing those things and spending too much time lusting after straight As. And no matter how much I thought I could balance "doing it all," I can recall having more than a few meltdowns when faced with the harsh reality of having to prioritize.

Middlebury has taught us many things, but accepting that we can be less than perfect is something that we must teach ourselves. So fellow seniors, if you've already gotten a C, congratulations! Wear it like a badge of honor. If you're brave, tell your friends and help defuse the notion among our perfectionist peers that getting a C is the end of the world. If, on the other hand, you're someone who still can't stand the thought of ruining your perfect transcript with anything less than an A- (the horror!), know that the real world doesn't always dish out good grades and ask yourself if you are ready for that.

In the coming weeks, let's strive to do work that professors will be quick to describe as "acceptable," "mediocre" or "fine" at best. Before we leave this hallowed place, we need to rise to meet one last challenge. We must prove to ourselves that it is okay to be average.

Donald Trump and Raúl Castro Will Not Shake Hands

READER OP-ED

***MIIS student Orestes Rafael Betancourt Ponce de León** writes about U.S.-Cuba relations.*

On November 8, 2016, perhaps you did not sleep from disbelief, joy or rage. In Havana, the nomenklatura of the communist party also lost sleep; a new situation emerged that broke the plans of a diplomatic approach prepared secretly and meticulously. The new tenant of the White House was a piece on the chessboard of international relations that no one had taken into account. And now? Many say that the process of rapprochement will still continue, while others, more cautious, prefer to wait before reaching verdict. Personally, I already have mine. For the Trump administration, the arguments in favor of deepening relations with Cuba are insufficient to counteract the influence of the Cuban-American sector in Congress; these individuals are totally opposed to such relations, unless the Cuban government changes its policy towards human rights and democracy. This chess game will remain unfinished pending Raul Castro departure from office in 2018. Then, we will see if the new government of Havana and Washington will continue to play together.

Many of my stubborn academic colleagues presume that rapprochement is imminent, based essentially on two arguments. The first is that pressure from Latin American governments will lead to a white-washing of the US's image in the region Many left-wing governments see the American embargo on the island as a remaining of an era of military interventionism in the continent. The second is that hidden financial interests will lead to the normalization of relations with Cuba.

What these academics miss is that the Latin American political spectrum is no longer the same as in 2009, when Obama felt diplomatic pressure at the Fifth Summit of the Americas held in Trinidad and Tobago. Nowadays, many leftist governments are not in power: Manuel Zelaya (Honduras), Fernando Lugo (Paraguay), Cristina Kirchner (Argentina) and Lula da Silva and his successor Dilma Rousseff (Brazil). Today, In their second terms, Michelle Bachelet (Chile) and Tabaré Vázquez (Uruguay) do not play an active role in regional diplomacy. Among those still in power, Rafael Correa will leave soon the presidency of Ecuador and his party's candidate Lenín Moreno seems to be more moderate in foreign and domestic politics. In Bolivia, Evo Morales seeks a re-election in 2019 that would be unconstitutional. The influence of Nicaragua is really nil, and the constant political and personal accusations about President Ortega, including of rape by his stepdaughter, prevent him from being an influential personality. Venezuela today, a mere shadow of what it was, is headed by a vice president accused of links to drug trafficking and elements of Islamic terrorism, as well as a president whose mental capacity is in doubt. Furthermore, in case this detailed analysis does not convince you, it is obvious that Trump does not care too much about his diplomatic ties and image.

The argument that Cuba will offer the United States billion-dollar business opportunities is no more very solid. Tourism would be the vanguard of us Cuba financial relations, but still, many cruise companies lack incentive to deal with Cuba until the picture is clear. Earlier this year, American Airlines announced a one quarter decrease in the number of flights to Cuba based on "low demand," and just few weeks ago, Silver Airways announced a reduction of flights as well.

What else does Cuba have to offer? Tobacco is surely the most profitable business. With regard to rum, the most famous Cuban-made brand is Havana Club. It turns out that the American company Bacardí already produces and sells Havana Club rum as well and there is still litigation that has taken little more than 20 years between Bacardí and Pernod Ricard (the Cuban government business partner). The bio-pharmaceutical sector may be attractive, but it would require a gigantic investment due to the lack of resources and cutting-edge technology that Cuba suffers, in addition to a constant brain drain. The same massive investments would be necessary in the case of the nickel because of the complete obsolescence of the Cuban infrastructure (also, the world market price of nickel is unstable with a downward trend). And while certain agricultural companies see a potential market in Cuba, they forget that the average salary in the island is around $ 25 per month. With less than $1 per day, the idea of having potential buyers falls apart. Could this mean cheap labor for the American companies? Of course, but it is not only morally questionable to take advantage of this situation, it would be necessary to calculate the financial feasibility. For example, if it is better to keep producing in Kansas, or invest in Cuban machinery, training, government fees and transportation costs. As can be seen, so far, most lucrative business opportunities lie in the distant future; today there is hardly anything concrete.

The main reason why I think the new administration will not immediately go forward is the political strength of sectors broadly opposed to a rapprochement with Havana. By the way, let's remember that after the death of Fidel Castro, Trump was quick in describing Castro as a "brutal dictator." Many, like Foreign Policy magazine, argue that the Cuban Lobby is even more powerful than the National Rifle Association. As for political representation, only preceded by the Jewish-American sector, today eight Cuban-Americans (of whom six are Republicans and two are Democrats) serve in Congress, and none, I repeat, none looked favorably on Obama's policy towards Cuba. Three senators (Marco Rubio, Ted Cruz, Bob Menéndez) and five representatives (Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, Carlos Curbelo, Mario Diaz-Balart, Albio Sires and Alex Mooney) are the political strongholds defending non-negotiation with Cuba. It is not about potential and future investments; no, it is solely about power in its pure state. (Just think, two of them were in the presidential race!) Donald Trump knows that the hopes of having Democratic support in Congress are almost nil, so he needs the Republican Party where he already faces powerful enemies (John McCain, Lindsay Graham, Bush family and media darling Arnold Schwarzenegger). Trump does not need more adversaries, no matter how fierce he wants to appear. Moreover, Cuba does not seem to be a priority for the administration, and Trump needs all possible support for the centerpieces of his agenda (think: ISIS, the wall, immigration policy and economic protectionism, Russia and China).

"Needless to say, the Cuban government has shown no interest in changing its political system or its position on human rights. If Havana does not give in, neither will Washington."

Needless to say, the Cuban government has shown no interest in changing its political system or its position on human rights. If Havana does not give in, neither will Washington. However, in 2018, once Raúl Castro leaves office, we will see if the new Cuban government is willing to cede. The new Cuban administration's hand will be forced by the crisis of its main allied and economic partner Venezuela, and its already existing dependence on the United States from remittances and American visitors. Fidel Castro's death has cleared the way, but, the climate of uncertainty surrounding the power shift is high. It's still unclear who will be the next president! And in a country with a Communist Party that has been clinging to power for six decades, a military caste accustomed to privileges, and a massive police state, it is hard to believe that Cuba's behaviors is going to change quickly.

At present, Trump's administration will not continue with the diplomatic rapprochement with Havana since the presumed diplomatic benefits simply don't exist. In addition, although there are certain financial benefits, these elements are not strong enough to counteract the power of the Cuban-American sector in Congress. After 2018, depending on Havana's move regarding human rights and democratic reforms, we will see if the chess game continues or if someone has left the table for good. Who knows?

CLASS-CONSCIOUS ORGANIZING AT MIDD

NOTES FROM THE DESK

***Opinions editor Edward O'Brien '17** writes about class-consciencious organizing.*

There has been a lot of talk since Trump was elected about leveraging one's privilege to do good. That is exactly what the Moving Money Campaign is about. It's all too common to hear liberal college students complain about how powerless they feel; but the truth is that we are not powerless. The median family income of students who attend Middlebury is $245,000 per year and almost one out of four students come from families that earn over $650,000, according to the recent *New York Times* article on colleges with many students from the top one percent. In order to engage in effective class-conscious activism, we must be self-conscious of where we fall along world wealth and income distributions. The median income at Middlebury puts these families in the top 3 or 4 percent of American earners.Globally, these incomes are even rarer. Those who make the median income at Middlebury are in the top 0.04 percent of earners in the world, and are among the top 3 million wealthiest households in the world by income. Even those who are not considered wealthy at Middlebury are usually wealthy in a global context — any family that makes over $33,000 per year after taxes is in the top 1 percent of the world.

Middlebury Moving Money is a project that challenges people to be class-conscious in their organizing. We are committed to wealth redistribution and combatting inequality and poverty. Protests and marches express solidarity and can often pressure institutions to change, but too often protests do not translate into tangible action. The Moving Money campaign is one way students — and their families! — can reallocate resources and redistribute wealth. Even a small amount of money can go a long way. For the price of an Even Steven at the Grille, you could pay to feed two children for a week. For the price of a movie at the Marquis, you could save an acre of the rainforest. For the price of Snow Bowl tickets, you could send a girl to school for a year, and for a concert, you could pay for the emergency medical need of someone without healthcare. Students may not have access to much wealth now, but giving a small amount can be a symbolic gesture in committing to wealth redistribution when and if we have access to more wealth. In the interest of being self-aware and class-consciousness, now is also a great opportunity to talk to parents about wealth redistribution.

"Think about how much money you spend in a weekend or on spring break. Now think about the potential of that money. We are not powerless."

This is power. This is opportunity. This is opportunity cost. The Moving Money Campaign challenges Middkids to be self-conscious and intentional about how they spend their money and about the money they have to spend. Think about how much money you spend in a weekend or how much money you spent on spring break. Now think of the potential of that money. We are not powerless.

Philanthropy is not a substitute for, and should not distract from, structural change. We must fight for universal healthcare and for the rights of women to be educated and for the global distribution of food. But those are not things any individual can do in one day. While we are fighting for these things, we can make marginal change and do marginal good. We can't do everything, but we need to do something.

To donate or learn more about class-conscious organizing, especially at elite institutions, go to go/movemoney. We are trying to raise $2,000 to fight poverty by the end of exam week. This money symbolizes our commitment to combatting inequality, and it will make $2,000 of difference in the world. We recommend donating to Hope VT, a poverty relief organization in Addison County, so that we can redistribute money in the community in which we live. Many protests and activist activities do not translate into tangible action; moving money is a way to make a difference here and now. Two thousand can do a lot on the world stage, and will symbolize our commitment as a community to intentionally recognizing our privilege and committing to the redistribution of wealth.

Why Eat Real Is Right for All the Wrong Reasons

READER OP-ED

***Charlie Mitchell '18** writes in about the Eat Real meat-reducing plan.*

EatReal distributed a survey to garner support for a proposal to reduce meat in the dining halls by 30 percent by the pound over the next three years. The majority of students approved the plan. It will likely pass through SGA next week.

I support the goals of this proposal with enthusiasm. The methods, however, are all wrong.

To justify the proposed changes, EatReal claims that "animal agriculture contributes more greenhouse gases worldwide than the entire transportation sector and is a leading cause of deforestation."

This sentence is cut straight from Cowspiracy, a dramatic documentary that deserves credit for its boldness and intentions (sort of) but, at the end of the day, is sensationalist, oversimplified propaganda that warrants critical examination and perspective.

Why is it obvious they're drawing from Cowspiracy to back this up?

First of all, the use of the term "animal agriculture" is a huge giveaway, because it's a term popularized by Cowspiracy that refers to production of any animal products (dairy, eggs, etc.).

Cowspiracy's message is veganist, and if EatReal wasn't borrowing it, they would say "meat production," an accurate phrase they use later in their list.

So if we take out the milk and eggs that make up almost 30 percent of livestock sector emissions, meat production's contribution to climate change is significantly less than "animal agriculture" as a whole. The environmental ramifications of a meat-based diet are indisputably significant. But if we're going to talk about meat, let's talk about meat.

Second, the survey's comparison of animal agriculture's climate change impacts to the transportation sector is a clear reference to a 2006 FAO report that is a main rally cry of Cowspiracy. Take the first fact from the documentary's fact page: "Animal agriculture is responsible for 18 percent of greenhouse gas emissions, more than the combined exhaust from all transportation."

In 2013 this report was thoroughly updated and estimates livestock production to be responsible for 14.5% of human emissions, and makes no claims comparing sectors.

Cowspiracy was released in 2014.

Ignoring the corrections on an outdated, questionable report is not just poor journalism, it's compromising the truth to make a point, and that is when integrity flies out the window. We can do better research than this.

Not only is this livestock vs. transportation comparison illegitimate, it's out of context. Cowspiracy uses global estimates from a global organization. These patterns do not hold universally. In the US, the EPA reports that transportation is responsible for almost three times the emissions of the entire agricultural sector itself (not even just livestock).

So when it comes to domestic environmental policy, transportation is a much more urgent problem than agriculture itself, much less "animal agriculture," much less meat production.

Whatever your opinions on Cowspiracy are, it should bother you very much that EatReal is quoting it verbatim in this proposal. This group is responsible for advocating with a sophisticated understanding of these issues.

I say again, I am thrilled that Middlebury College is going to buy less industrial meat in favor of smaller producers closer to Addison County. It makes our environment, economy, humans and animals healthier. It's a slam dunk.

But we need to be clear about why that is, and we need to do better than intimidation and sensationalism, even if it is being used to advance progressive ends.

Supporting an important and perfectly justifiable campaign with false and deceptive information damages the credibility of an entire movement. Let's continue this work, but let's be clear, informed and accurate. Otherwise, it inhibits the movement's progress.

This movement is strong and growing. EatReal is Middlebury's chapter of Real Food Challenge, a vast network of campuses creating a more just and sustainable food system. This stuff matters. A lot. For advancing agendas of social justice, human rights and environmentalism—which are all connected.

Let's talk about why these issues are connected, and how. Let's inform ourselves about our food system with sources that respect our dignity. Civil Eats is a great place to start.

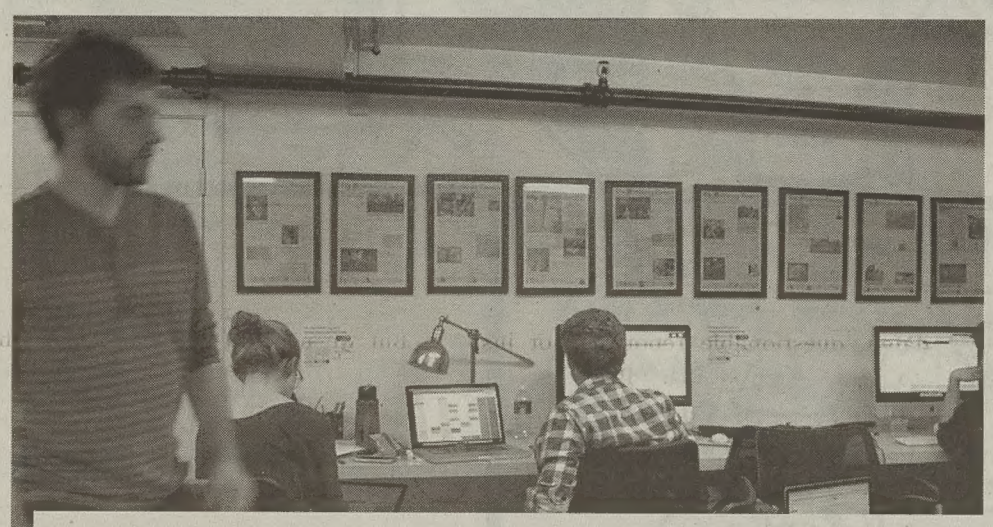
Want to write a column in the Opinions section?

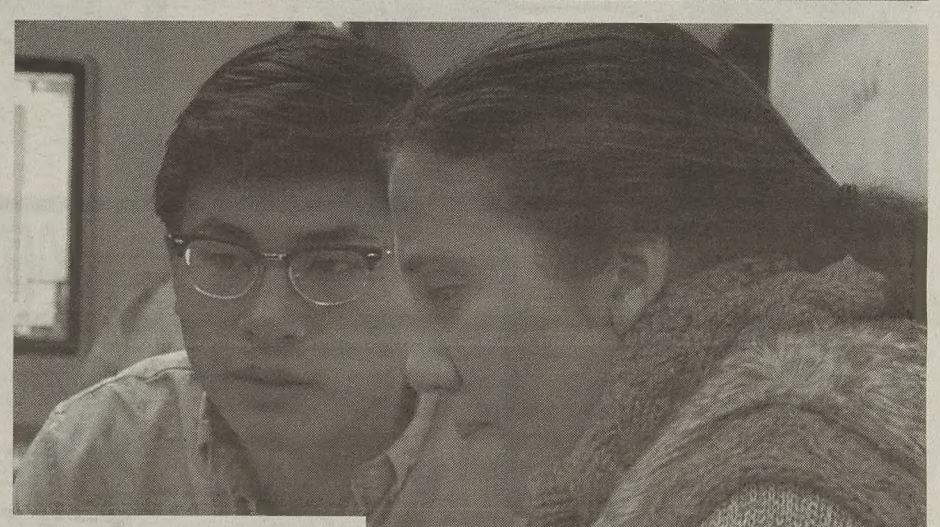
Contact us at campus@middlebury.edu

and we'll let you know what's up in the fall.

(Sorry, seniors — but congrats on graduation!)

INTERESTED IN WRITING AND JOURNALISM?





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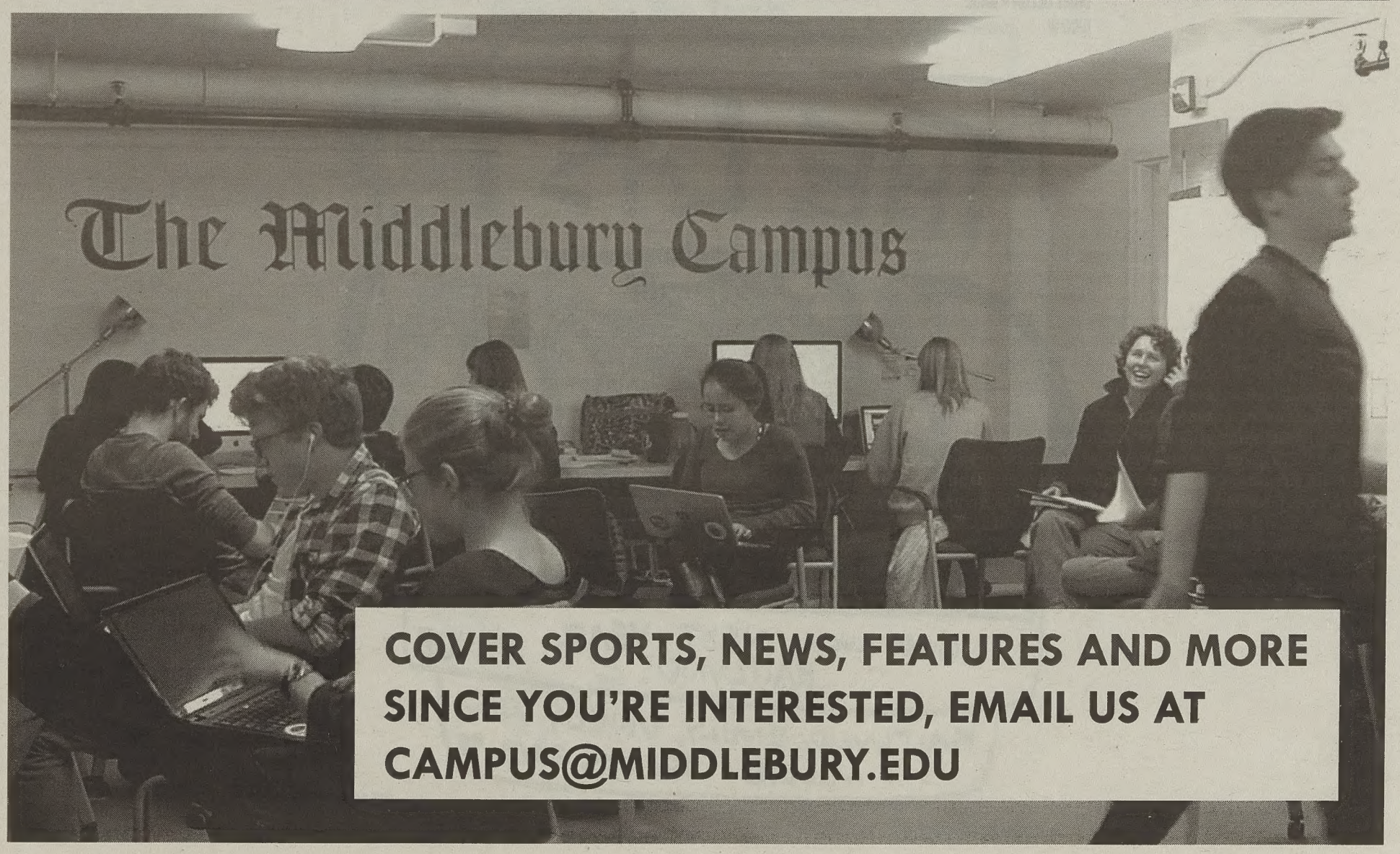

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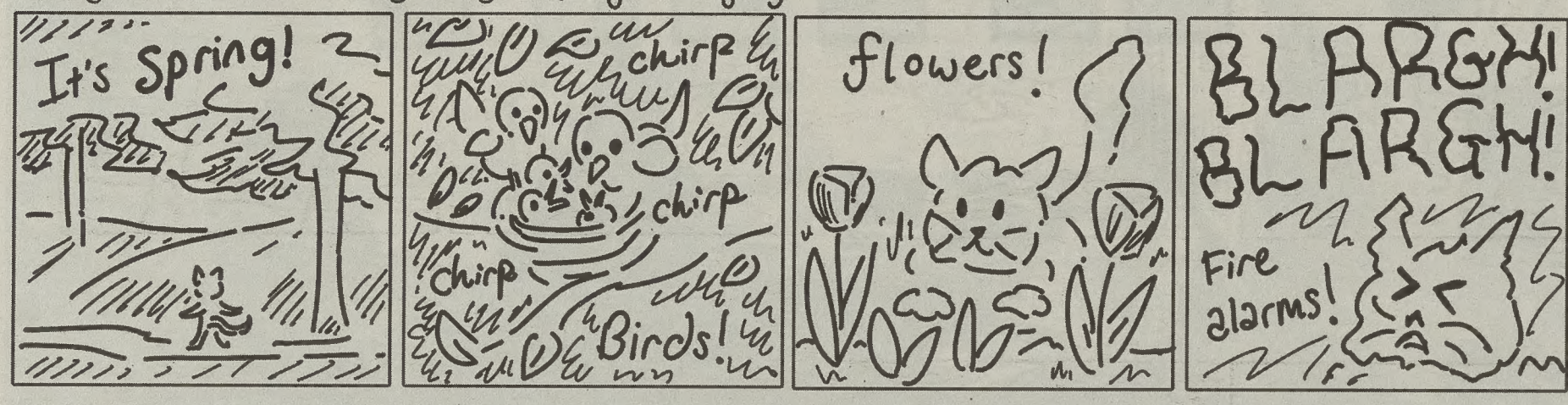

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EMILY COX

WIN HOMER

MILLIE VON PLATEN

Passing on the Torch

KAITLYNN COLLINS

Free Speech an

This year at *The Campus* we have covered events from the raising of a Black Lives Matter flag to the election of President Donald Trump to the protests against Dr. Charles Murray. What I've seen emerge through it all is an unprecedented commitment to student activism and to the right to freedom of speech. And yet, I've learned that nothing is simple and nothing is absolute.

The Charles Murray event has sparked a national discussion about freedom of speech and freedom to protest. How we define freedom of speech, how we define student activism and protest, how we define our community will, and must, always remain open for debate. Only through debate and discussion can we hope to evolve from a fraught community to a united one. It is my hope that *The Campus* will continue to report the news accurately and completely and continue to encourage and provide a forum for open, rigorous, respectful debate among its editors, contributors and readers. It is my hope that the Middlebury community will do the same.

To all those students, faculty, staff, alumni, parents and community members - thank you. Thank you for using *The Campus* as your platform and thank you for being devoted readers.

To *The Campus* staff - thank you for your hard work and dedication in an especially trying year. It has been an honor and a pleasure working and learning with you all.

- Ellie Reinhardt '17, Editor-in-Chief

[redacted]

- Sara Hodgkins '17.5, Opinions Editor

As a college newspaper, *The Campus* is a platform for students to voice their well-reasoned and respectful opinions. Yet it is also important to remember that, as the mainstream publication for such a predominantly white and upper/upper middle class population, *The Campus* empowers not the underrepresented voices of the student body as much as it empowers the opinions of the mainstream college community.

This year's *Campus* has worked to diversify the type of student experiences that are featured in the paper, giving a voice and a platform to student endeavors that were not as widely discussed in the paper before. While this does not yet make *The Campus* truly representative of the entire student body, it's a start, and I'd like to encourage students who feel that *The Campus* is not as welcoming to their experiences and voices to reach out, break that cycle and make their voices heard as *The Campus* works to become more inclusive and more representative of the student body.

- Charmaine Lam '17, Features Editor

[redacted]

- Alex Newhouse '17, Features Editor

and *The Campus*

The Campus Editorial Board has contended with the idea of freedom of speech in a variety of ways over the course of this year. Here is a selection of seven pieces, written by members of _The Campus_ staff regarding the role of freedom of speech on our campus and in our paper.

I believe that to frame the recent conversation on campus as a debate about free speech overshadows the real issues of white supremacy and institutional racism at play. First, let's establish that the legal right to free speech means that the government cannot censor speech by arresting a person or keeping their books out of print. The constitution does not give a person, like Charles Murray, the right to have a platform at a private institution like Middlebury. Because of this, I do not think it is fair to characterize this as an issue of free speech — a characterization that absurdly paints protesters as "anti-free speech" when protest is a fundamental aspect of free speech. I am an aspiring journalist and I value free speech and freedom of the press, but I do not think that is the debate we should be having right now. Instead, I believe we should take time to listen to those who protested about why their identities so often feel threatened in our community.

- Sarah Asch '19.5, Features Editor

[redacted]

- Alessandria Schumacher '17, Local Editor

I find that I can often hide behind the camera while at public events. As I'm "getting the shot" for each story, I don't always have the proper focus to contribute my own words to conversations or my own voice to demonstrations. Afterwards, while I'm selecting photos to go into the paper, I channel my creative voice through images, not eloquently as my fellow editors and staff writers do so well. In fact, as many front-page photos I've had, as many center spreads or photo stories, this statement is my first and last written contribution to *The Campus*. I don't mean to brag about my achievements though—I am of the belief that with a little bit of luck or skill, anyone has the capacity to take a good snapshot that captures the essence of a subject. However, behind my camera, I am often able to skip lines and jump fences to get where others are not permitted—to see and hear things that few others do. In a time of the debate for free speech, it is with increasing urgency that I find that I must speak through these photographs to make my voice heard, to tell the truth as I see it.

- Michael O'Hara '17, Photos Editor

[redacted]

- [redacted], Opinions Editor

J Street U Screens "5 Broken Cameras"

By Miguel Espinosa
Staff Writer

Students and faculty gathered to watch the documentary "5 Broken Cameras" in Bicentennial Hall on the evening of May 4. "5 Broken Cameras" covers the conflict between Israel and Palestine from the perspective of a Palestinian villager living on the West Bank border. The screening was presented by the political and activist organization, J Street U Middlebury.

Stated on their homepage, the organization's mission is "to educate, advocate and discuss along the lines of the 'pro-Israel, pro-peace' agenda for peace, security and social justice in Israel, the future state of Palestine and across the Middle East." J Street U supports Israel's right to exist and "advocates" a two-state solution for peace. The students organizing the screening believe that "5 Broken Cameras" advances discussion about security and justice within the troubled region. A formal discussion was held afterward to allow reactions and to explore criticisms of the film.

Filmed by Palestinian farmer Emad Burnat, '5 Broken Cameras" takes place in Bil'in, a Palestinian Village. The documentary, over the course of six years, undergoes two narratives intertwined with one another.

The first involves the installment of barriers between the Palestinian village and Israeli settlements, which takes away Bil'in residents' farmland, and was met by protests. The second narrative pays attention to Burnat's family, and how they cope with increasing uncertainty about their village's future. The title refers to how five different cameras were used and destroyed during Burnat's documentation of the conflict in Bil'in. Each camera encapsulates distinct periods during the conflict.

Distressing and light moments unfold throughout the documentary, and at times, engage one another ironically. At the beginning, we encounter Phil, a family friend of Burnat, and his playful personality with children. His kind and lighthearted nature forges his bond with Burnat's youngest son, Gibreel. Unfortunately, Phil's death is captured by camera as he is struck by a pellet, leaving the entire village in mourning.

Other moments include retaliating against land hoarding by Israeli construction companies; Burnat insists that these companies steal land by planting trailers in unauthorized areas. To retaliate, the villagers plant their own trailer in such an area. When it is removed, the villagers plant another one, eventually locking themselves inside.

Chaos ensues when the protesters clash with Israeli soldiers. Furthermore, since Burnat's hundreds of hours of footage are condensed into a 90 minute film, one might be given the illusion that violent clashes happen frequently. Most of these times, soldiers fire into protester crowds with plastic bullets and gas grenades, leaving a handful of people bloodied. Among the crowds aren't just Palestinians, but Israelis sympathetic to their struggle.

> ***"In showing this movie I wanted to expose people to one personal story. The movie is about the conflict, but it's also about the director's family and life."***
>
> **CELIA ALTER '19.5**

Additionally, we witness the burden the conflict places on Burnat's family. They are forced to move, after being told by Israeli forces that their residence has been declared a "closed military zone."

His brothers are arrested on several occasions. One of them results in an unforgettable scene where Burnat's parents struggle with the soldiers, and the father takes resistance further by sitting a transport's windshield. The darkest turn occurs after the youngest son Gibreel watches a violent episode unfold between protesters and soldiers; in a conversation with Burnat afterward, Gibreel asks why his father doesn't fight the soldiers with a knife instead. Gibreel, who is below the age of six, is already considering violence as an option for protest.

"5 Broken Cameras" views the Israeli-Palestinian conflict through a personal lens. Burnat shows how such a conflict affects his and his family's life.

"I don't think it's possible to give a complete and fair representation of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict in two hours," said Celia Alter '19.5, President of J Street U Middlebury, when responding to how fairly the conflict was portrayed in the film. "There are too many stories and perspectives to encompass even a small portion in one movie. In showing this movie, I wanted to expose people to one personal story. The movie is about the conflict, but it's also about the director's family and life, though all of these are very intertwined. It's a documentary, but that doesn't eliminate bias. The directors had hundreds of hours of footage to sort through, so what made the cut for the 90 minute movie is not random."

J Street U Treasurer Becca Gorman '20 agreed, and added that, "Burnat thoughtfully displays the struggles, fears and pain that many Palestinians have to endure. He humanizes a people that are often dismissed by Western media and Israeli propaganda as 'terrorists.' That being said, there are two sides to every story and here we only hear one. We do not hear the fears and sorrow that most likely reside in every one of the Israeli soldiers, teenagers our age, being forced to serve for their country. We do not hear from the mothers of soldiers who have been injured by thrown rocks. We do not hear from Israeli children who have had Molotov cocktails thrown into their living room because they were dragged into a settlement by their parents. I don't think that Burnat maliciously left out these narratives of the conflict. His goal was to tell the story of his people — a story that is often overlooked or ignored- and he accomplished that."

J Street U Middlebury hopes to continue discussion of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict in the fall, with more events and open discussions.

WIKIPEDIA

J Street U Middlebury screened 5 Broken Cameras to raise awareness of Israel-Palestinian conflict.

Hunter Graham Talks ROTC, Military Service

By Sarah Asch
Features Editor

Every Wednesday, Hunter Graham '20 drives to the University of Vermont to attend a Military Science class as part of the Reserve Officers Training Core (ROTC) of the Army. ROTC offers college students a path into military service, in addition to offering financial assistance to help pay for college.

According to the Army website, ROTC prides itself on being a leadership program and providing job opportunities to college graduates in Active Duty jobs as well as in the Army National Guard and Army Reserves. Graham has been a part of ROTC since the beginning of this semester.

"ROTC, and serving in general, were always things I considered in high school, but I think I was too afraid to try. Once I had more information, because I started talking to people at UVM and the other cadets, it became clear that this is something that I could really do," Graham said. "It has added a whole other element of my college life, another really big friend group that can understand you better than people at Middlebury in some ways."

Graham explained that when she attends class at UVM, the cadets in the program are split up by year. "The one's have a relatively easy, introductory course," she said. "The two's course is a bit more challenging. The third year is the most important — it is the year that determines what branch of the Army they will go into." Graham has also attended some labs to gain more experience. "Sometimes instead of or in addition to class there is a longer 'lab' that gives more hands on experience," she said. "The only labs that I have been to are at a military base in Burlington called Camp Johnson."

In addition to the educational aspect of the program, the cadets must complete an intensive training regiment. Since Graham and fellow Middlebury ROTC member Steve Bissainthe '18 do not live in Burlington, they stay in shape by attending a work-out class at Middlebury called CATS twice a week.

According to Graham, she decided to pursue the program as a way to be involved in something important. "I became interested in it when I saw the life I could have if I was willing to make sacrifices and put in the work," she said. "There are so many opportunities that only the military can give you, and not all of them put you on the front lines. I could graduate and take an educational leave to go to medical school, or go into military intelligence. I joined because I wanted to be a part of something bigger than myself. The military is about as big as you can get."

Graham also has a unique perspective, as a woman in the male-dominated program. She says there are five women in her class of 25, and that half of the women are in the nursing program. "I do not feel any different as a girl in the program," she said. "Women wear the same uniform and keep their hair in a low bun. The upperclassmen in the program that I look up to are all women, except for Steve, of course. There are two seniors in charge of the group each year, one per semester, and they usually choose a woman as one of the leaders. There are some really badass women in the program who will do amazing things."

Graham says her favorite part of the experience so far has been the people. "It is nice to get off campus and be around a new group of people. Everyone I have met has been so welcoming and so real," she said. "The UVM cadets are all amazing. The Green Mountain Battalion is one of the best in the country and I am lucky to be a part of the family."

> ***"I joined because I wanted to be a part of something bigger than myself. The military is about as big as you can get."***
>
> **HUNTER GRAHAM '20**

The program has been challenging for Graham. "It's been hard to do something so out of the ordinary," she said. "I'm excited and nervous to see what it will be like to wear the uniform on campus, something that will happen every Wednesday." Graham also said it was hard to join part way through the year and catch up on the content in the science class.

Another challenge has been how disconnected ROTC is from her experience at Middlebury. Graham made the decision to join ROTC without talking to any college administrators. "I have spoken to no college administration or the registrar about this," she said. "We don't get a class credit for taking another class, that has as much work and a huge time commitment. There is no college support other than our friends and the different articles written about it."

Despite the challenges, Graham has found her friends to be very supportive of her participation. "I've really appreciated all of the love and support my friends have shown in this. I think a lot of people are confused about what it is, or think that it's something foreign and unusual, when it's unusual that there's no program at Middlebury."

According to Graham, if all goes according to plan, she intends to continue with the program for the rest of her time in college.

Ten Things I Know to Be True About Sex

By Sex Panther

Full disclosure: The Sex Panther wrote this piece while slightly (okay — quite) tipsy. And she loves you the most.

Alright, y'all. I'm graduating in 17 days. That's a scary short amount of time. I debated about what I wanted to leave you with in my final edition of the sex panther — an ode to female masturbation (seriously a god-send, y'all!), an interview with a professor who researches sexuality, why you should take a chance and reach out to someone you have a crush on in these last few weeks, or real-life stories of people doing it right (pun intended). Instead, I want to leave y'all with the bullet-points version of everything I know about sex and relationships:

One: Communication is key. I said this in the very first SP column I wrote and it's the truest thing I know about relationships, whether a brief sexual encounter or long-lasting partnership. Being honest with our partners leads to better relationships and better sex.

Two: It's great to experiment. If you want to try out something new, find a pressure-free way to introduce a new concept into your sex life. "Just for fun" trying something out is a lot easier to do than making a new component a big deal and loading on the pressure for both you and your partner to have a good time. (Handcuffs, blindfolds, dildos are highly recommended as first steps to introducing some kink into your relationship.)

Three: Masturbation is the bomb. Seriously. There is such a deep pleasure in knowing yourself and giving yourself time to explore your fantasies in the safety of your own bed. Plus, it's a lot easier to explain to a partner what turns you on when you've done some solo exploration.

Four: The key to staying friends with your ex is (duh) communication. Be open to letting them know if you need space from them, especially at the beginning. Sometimes it helps to have horrifying fights about why you broke up, as long as you keep in mind that under all that hurt, you still care for each other and respect each other as human beings. Of course, if you don't care about them deeply anymore and a friendship doesn't matter to you, don't bother.

Five: Tell the people you care about that you do care. I tend to talk A LOT, but when I need to tell someone how much I care for them, I let them know that what I'm saying is really important by slowing down, making some eye contact and saying really bluntly how important they are to me, how proud I am of them, etc. Implied love and affection is not communicated as clearly as we might think. Whether with friends or lovers, you have to let them know every once in a while.

Six: Don't sleep with someone your friend dated, unless you're willing to change that friendship forever in order to pursue a relationship the ex. I don't care how chill your friend is, sleeping with their ex will change y'all's relationship forever. Maybe it'll change for the better in the long-run, but in the short-run, things will inevitably be tense. You have to be ready to deal with that tension in a mature way.

Seven: CONSENT! Constantly! This can just be a check-in, but it should happen during the entire sexual experience — from the first moment you approach one another at a party to the first kiss to post-sex cuddling.

Eight: No sexual desire should be shamed. That doesn't mean you have to personally be willing to participate in something, but don't shame the act or the people who might want to participate.

Nine: It's not always about coming. Sex is ideally sensual and erotic, and that doesn't always mean getting yours. It can mean being a generous and selfless partner one minute and the recipient of a lot of love the next. There is a lot of social baggage that goes along with this advice — cis-hetero men tend to think that the goal (and end) of sex is their ejaculation. But the point is really (besides baby-making) mutual pleasure, which doesn't necessitate male ejaculation or even female orgasm, necessarily. My sex life has benefitted from a wider definition of sex that allows more room for the sensual and erotic outside of standard definitions of "sex."

Ten: Don't judge yourself for what you like. There is no shame in any sexual preference. Shame about sex is pretty much just a social construct that you don't have to accept into your life. (Obvi, this doesn't apply when a fantasy requires that a partner not give consent... consent rules all!)

Thank you, dear readers, for being open to my thoughts on sex and relationships this semester. I hope you found something you can use in your own life. Look out for a new sex panther next year — there's always more to think about when it comes to getting it on!

Xoxo, Sex Panther

First Korean Cultural Show Dazzles Students

By Courtney Roch
Contibuting Writer

At 8 p.m. on Saturday, May 5, the lights in Wilson Hall dimmed abruptly, leaving only the iridescent light of hundreds of glow sticks and a few phones waving wildly in the air above the crowd. So the much-anticipated inaugural Korean Culture Show, a night of passionate singing and dancing, opened to a full house.

Lydia Kim '17, one of the leaders of the show, was inspired particularly by a K-pop performance in last semester's International Students' Organization (ISO) yearly global culture show. After seeing the popularity of the K-pop act in the ISO show, she decided she wanted to create a show that focused solely on Korean Culture.

"I was both surprised and amazed to find out that 1) not a single dancer was Korean, 2) there were so many non-Koreans who knew about K-pop and 3) such a wild crowd reaction was given to a cultural experience that I thought was so distant from Middlebury," Kim said.

Indeed, Middlebury students appear to be extremely excited about Korean culture. As early as half an hour before the show began, a line already formed outside the doors of Wilson Social Space. Once the show started, the auditorium rang with near constant screams of approval from the audience.

The show featured more than 60 singers and dancers, 15 percent of whom are ethnically Korean, performing instrumental, K-pop and norebang (a type of Korean karaoke) songs. It was important to the show's leaders that the show present a range of different aspects of Korean culture.

"There was traditional music, we had a bunch of norebang pieces (which don't categorize as K-pop), the MCs dressed up in hanbok (traditional dress). "[There was] a speech about the sewol ferry incident," a reference to Korean dramas, Kim said.

"We all came up with a list of songs together, choosing the most iconic dances and the most fun songs, and we tried to keep in mind the different eras of Korean pop music," Shannia Fu '17, another leader of the show, said.

"Honestly, we started with a list of maybe 30 songs or bands, and we tried to narrow it down to around 10, on top of the traditional instrumental music and the noraebang style singing."

Some highlights included a dance to the newly-debuted K-pop girl group BLACKPINK's Boombayah with Carissa Lee '19, Nathan Nguyen '19, Emily Han '20 and Lia Yeh '20; "Unconditional," a norebang love song performed by Michelle Hwang '19; and "Lovers," performed instrumentally by Fu on piano, Jingchen Jiang '18 on guzheng and Subin Cho '19 on haegeum.

The show was wildly successful, opening to a full house, and received "a ton of positive feedback," Kim said. But she stressed that it was not at all easy to organize.

"We literally put on the show without having had any affiliation to an official organization. None of us had much of any experience putting on a show, and we didn't even know where to begin," she said. "We had to persuade our sponsors to trust us. We had to put in an insane amount of time and effort to organize 20 acts and 60+ people for an event we didn't even know was going to attract attention. We had to put our faith in something that had no precedence at this school, and just go for it."

The leadership board also had difficulty finding support for the show because there is currently no Korean department at Middlebury. Kim hopes that will change in the near future.

"There is no undergraduate Korean department at Middlebury, there are no faculty who teach Korea-related topics, we don't have much student organization support and we only have a nascent Korean alumni community," she said. "This event, and the people who organized it, literally had to spring out of nowhere."

The show received support from the Middlebury School of Korean, the Department of Chinese, the Department of Japanese, the Department of Music and the Rohatyn Center for Global Affairs.

Kim and the rest of the show's leadership board are very invested in widening the scope of influence of Korean culture on campus. The board is among those who recently initiated Korean language tables in Proctor, and they are hoping the college will start offering Korean classes. Fu hopes that the show has helped those efforts to bring more Korean influence onto campus.

"We want the Middlebury community to be aware of this culture that might not be as prevalent around campus," Fu said. "A small but loud group has also been trying to get a Korean department installed here at Middlebury, so by having so many people show up and display interest in any kind of Korean culture, we wanted to show the administration that there is a genuine desire for a Korean language program."

Though most of the leadership board for this year's show will have graduated or will be abroad next year, Kim and Fu are confident the show will continue in the future, and perhaps become an annual event. Given the great success the show has enjoyed this year, it seems likely that interest for Korean culture will only continue to increase on campus.

RAFAEL HERNANDEZ

Performers bring the dance "Cheer Up" by K-pop group twice to a close in the second half of the Korean Culture Show.

RAFAEL HERNANDEZ

Nathan Lam Nguyen '19 takes the spotlight in the Black Pink K-pop dance.

Exploring the Debate Society's Rich History

By Alex Newhouse
Features Editor

The Middlebury Debate Society is one of the oldest extant student organizations on campus. It has been around for over one hundred years, and was founded around the same time as the *Campus* itself. Although there has been some sort of debate team around for the past century, it has morphed several times. Today's society only vaguely resembles the debating clubs of the past.

The exact founding date of the first Middlebury debate team is unknown, but the first active club appears to have begun in 1912-1913, formed by members of the class of 1916. In one of the earliest mentions of organized, competitive debate, a writer for the *Campus* said, "Members of the class of 1916 interested in debating met some time ago and organized a Freshman Debating Society."

This first group of students organized mostly for intramural debate, planning a series of topics on current events such as "Resolved: That the U.S. Government should own and operate the railroads." Although this is an issue specific to their time period, some of their other topics resonate much more with the current political climate. For example, their next debate focused on the topic "Resolved: That the U.S. Government should further restrict immigration."

Both the students involved and the writer of the article hoped that the debate team would grow into something larger. At the end of the article, the reporter said, "With the material on hand it is anticipated that a credible team will be developed to maintain Middlebury's standard against her ancient rivals from Northfield." Northfield presumably refers to Norwich University, which is located in the town and has historically been athletic rivals with the College.

For several years after its inception, the debate team remained an exclusive pastime of first-years. It retained the name "Freshman Debating Society" for some time, although it is uncertain for how long. However, some students were already pushing for a larger, school-wide debate team a month after those first articles about the first-year organization were written.

In an article published in May 1913, a *Campus* reporter said, "The freshmen have been energetic and brave enough to go forth, survey carefully, and win a good fight in the field of debate. We should, by all means, follow their example and as a college send out men who by intellectual powers and strength of oratory could tack more victories to our record."

By 1922-23, the society was simply called the "Debate Team," and appears to have included multiple class years. A photograph of eight debaters and their faculty advisor still hangs on the wall of the Kirk Alumni Center, one of the few hints of early debate artifacts that still remain on campus. After this point, it turned into an established rhetoric organization and held several debates a year.

These debates were big events on campus: they were held in Mead Chapel, the President of the College presided over them, and on-campus musical clubs were often invited to play. Later in the 1920s and in the 1930s, a women's debating club was founded. Men's debates had an entry fee of 25 cents, while women's debates were free. According to documents in the College's special collections and old *Campus* articles, the team's main events seem to have been these scheduled, large-production debates.

They did not simply debate against themselves, either. The College's debate team invited other organizations from all over the country and even overseas. On Nov. 14, 1934, for example, student debaters from the University of Oxford traveled to the College to debate the topic, "Resolved: that the abandonment of an isolationist policy is essential to American recovery." Other invitees included a mixed team from Scottish universities, Cambridge University's team, and a team composed of College faculty members.

The College's team was able to afford these events because a wealthy alum of the University of Vermont took an early and passionate interest in helping Vermont debate survive and grow. It is nearly impossible to tell when this alum, Edwin Lawrence, began donating to the debate team, but former Debate Society captain Nate Rifkin '15 believes that he set up an endowment around 1915-16. Associate Dean of Students for Student Activities and Orientation Derek Doucet has traced it back to an original $1000 gift in 1922.

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

The Middlebury College Debate Society from 1921-1922 posed for an official team photo

This endowment originally provided funding primarily for special prizes given to winners of tournaments, but over time, Lawrence increased the size of the endowment. It came to fully fund both UVM and Middlebury debate teams, and during the twentieth century, the College and UVM met in an annual Edwin Lawrence debate.

To this day, the Lawrence endowment funds the Debate Society and the Model United Nations team at the College. There is also a Lawrence Debate Room in Wright Theater, although the current Debate Society no longer uses it.

In 1981, the American Parliamentary Debate Association (APDA) was founded in an attempt to organize the disordered state of American debate. According to Rifkin, who studied APDA records while he was enrolled at the College, Middlebury's debate team joined early on in APDA's history.

However, it was not until recently that the society has found success on the circuit. Rifkin and Frank Wyer '15 were the first College pair to make it to an "out" round (an elimination round) in a tournament, while Rifkin and James Callison '17.5 were the first pair to win a tournament.

Alongside its recent successes, the Debate Society has grown both in membership and in scope. As a result of the Lawrence endowment and the demands of having to travel, the Debate Society now has a budget of over $50,000 a year.

This means that the leadership can send students to tournaments across the country and throughout the world. They have travelled as far as Malaysia, the Netherlands, and Jamaica, and continue to be yearly competitors at the Oxford and Cambridge tournaments.

Visting Lecturer Delivers Talk on the Caste System

By Ellie Anderson
Staff Writer

Subramanian Shankar, professor of English at the University of Hawaii, addressed students, faculty and staff on Thursday, May 4, with a talk about the nuances of caste in India and its use as an analytical framework. Shankar's lecture, "My Birth Is My Fatal Accident: Caste in India and What It Teaches Us about Ideologies of Social Inequality, Including Race," took place in the Robert A. Jones '59 conference room of the Rohatyn Center for Global Affairs.

In addition to his position as professor, Shankar is the Director of Creative Writing at the University of Hawaii and is a renowned critic, novelist and translator. In speaking about his past novels, Shankar said that they all "engage deeply with caste." Born and raised in India, Shankar said he wanted his lecture to complicate the narrative of the caste system to cultivate better racial understanding in the U.S.

Shankar introduced his lecture with a short story about an encounter he had while in India researching for his novels, when he ran into a religious "washerman" by the river. He learned that the washerman had inherited the job from his father and, because his sons had moved away from the village, would be the last man to work as a washerman there.

"And then he said the thing that to me encapsulates beautifully—horrifically—the conundrums of caste," Shankar said. He described how the washerman told him that his sons, though they had left the village, still worked in laundry occupations elsewhere.

"You can leave your caste profession, I observed to myself ... but your caste profession, it seems, won't leave you," Shankar concluded. He reflected further on the relation between profession and caste later in his lecture, noting that the caste system is still used in part to maintain a permanent source of easy labor.

In order to situate the Indian caste system within a Western context, Shankar spoke about the common misunderstandings of caste. He pointed out the tendency of those not involved in the system to reduce caste to a couple of "easily specifiable" traits.

Instead, Shankar emphasized that "caste is mutable, changing, but also persistent and tenacious. Caste is complicated." He also called attention to the fact that the caste system is not restricted to India alone, stressing that "caste is a global concern."

Shankar also spoke about the suicide of Rohith Vemula, a university student who took part in a great amount of anti-caste activism before killing himself in 2016 because of discrimination against his caste status of Dalit – the caste of the "untouchables."

Vemula's suicide and the note he left behind, Shankar said, "completely convulsed India [and] shook the national government."

The title of Shankar's lecture, in fact, is taken from a sentence in Vemula's viral suicide note "My birth is my fatal accident," reads the note. "I can never recover from my childhood loneliness. The unappreciated child from my past."

Vemula's suicide highlighted how caste is embedded within Indian culture and understood as a reflection of identity. Shankar spoke about this in reference to another line of the suicide note, wherein Vemula reflects on how "the value of a man was reduced to his immediate identity and nearest possibility."

Later in the lecture, Shankar discussed the various approaches to a critique of caste. He spoke about the method in which race was employed in order to better understand caste in India, by equating the two. This was particularly exemplified by the ideology of Orientalism from European colonizers.

"Orientalism—this idea of the Oriental Indian— often used ideas about race to weave a history of India, and the ways it did that was by finding, in caste systems, a racial narrative," Shankar said.

Shankar went on to highlight the reverse methodology in which caste could be used to better understand race, specifically in the U.S. Noting that he was not the only person to approach the concept, Shankar posed the question, "Does race in the U.S. function as a kind of caste system?"

Shankar spoke about a short essay written by American anthropologist Gerald Berreman, who spent much of his life researching the relationship between caste and race in the U.S. In his essay, Berreman argues that "the term 'caste system' is applicable at the present time in the southern United States."

Berreman asserted that the term "can be usefully applied to societies with systems of hierarchical, endogamous subdivisions whose membership is hereditary and permanent, wherever they occur."

Towards the end of his lecture, Shankar called history "something human beings make and unmake."

Shankar distinguishes the body from history, however. "Your racial difference is biological and coded in your body— it is not historical," he said. "That is, it is not the outcome of human action."

Those who are born into the bottom of the caste system "have no option but to accept their status in society as fated or fixed."

Shankar concluded his lecture with a quote by an anti-caste activist that countered the ideology associated with the caste system.

"All life is one at birth," read Shankar. "Deeds make the difference."

Hal Juster '19 attended Shankar's lecture out of personal interest, and said that it was "fascinating to think about caste in comparison to race."

Juster also had a particular interest in the religious aspect of the caste system, which Shankar touched on briefly in a mention of the atheist, anti-caste activist Periyar Ramasamy, who believed that one must abandon religion in order to fully abolish caste.

"I think it's interesting to think about Buddhism — which people often think of as a peaceful, very introspective religion — as a means for radical social change, for addressing social inequality and other structures that have that effect," Juster said.

HELP OVERCOME POVERTY'S EFFORTS

MIDD MOVING MONEY

This semester, Midd Moving Money is running a "moving money" campaign to reallocate resources from this campus to address poverty. We recommend that students donate to Hope Vt., a poverty relief organization in Addison County.

Midd Moving Money is an anti-racist, anti-sexist, anti-homophobic organization that seeks to mobilize and redistribute wealth on campus. We are interested in a variety of class-conscious organizing tactics, particularly ones that actively move money, including but not limited to learning more about class in a way that is coherent with anti-racist ideologies, having open and honest inter-class discussions, wealth redistribution, impact investing, fundraising and personal divestment.

Hope

Helping Overcome Poverty's Effects

GO/MOVEMONEY

ARTS & SCIENCES

The Middlebury Campus

'Waiting for Godot' Explores Hope

By Maria Bobbitt-Chertock
Staff Writer

Samuel Beckett's absurdist tragicomedy "Waiting for Godot" is a notoriously difficult piece, and a group of students took on the challenge.

The show follows two men, Vladimir (Jackson Prince '17) and Estragon (Kean Haunt '17), as they wait for a man named Godot, who never comes. They consider leaving their spot — an unspecified place by a country road — but never do. They encounter three other characters — Pozzo (Kevin Commins '76), Lucky (Kevin Benscheidt '18.5), and an unnamed boy (Zach Jette) — with whom they try to relate to despite their poor memories and dissociative tendencies. Little develops. The comedy is unconventional and the tragedy, if performed without proper timing and energy, can be hard to grasp.

But the cast of "Waiting for Godot," who performed from May 4 to May 6 in the Hepburn Zoo, mastered the play's essential rhythms. The long silences and short, snappy dialogue felt percussive, like the rests and beats of a musical composition. This timing made the play's essential repetitiveness more obvious — and consequently, more devastating.

Director Sally Seitz '17 credited the actors for this success. "To create those canters it takes a great deal of listening, an awareness of how words sound, and how those sounds play off one another," she said.

The physical comedy, too, felt set to a metronome: when Estragon opened the show with an elaborate attempt to take off his boot, he set a lively pulse that the other actors maintained. When Pozzo abused his leash-led slave, Lucky, the choreography could easily have grown chaotic, but instead it seemed practiced and measured, as it should have been, given their repetitious world.

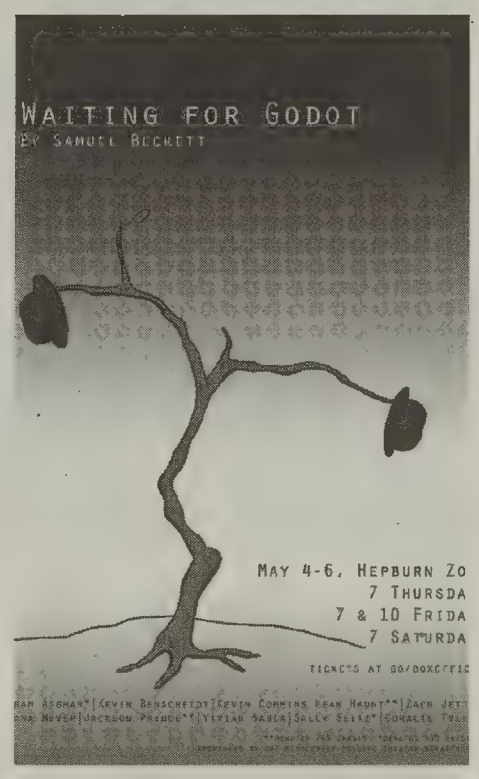
"The music of the play is quite palpable, and it's really obvious when it's wrong," Haunt said. "Getting it right involved listening really intently to the other actors onstage to make sure we weren't trampling over whatever was already in the room."

And the plays musicality did more than simply emphasize repeated dialogue. It evoked the strange intangibility of memory. The show's characters spent a lot of time trying to place themselves in space and time; they debated whether it was day or night, whether they did such-and-such activity yesterday or not, how long they had known each other or whether they had ever met at all. They attempted vainly to find a narrative in their own lives the same way we might try to recall a forgotten melody: we struggle for something cohesive but can only grasp bits and pieces.

Godot, of course, loomed over the piece as the only hope in a barren world. The set underscored this — only a tree and a rock furnished the stage. The two-limbed tree, painted white, was more a surrealist evocation of a tree, which was so feeble-looking. The rock sat squat on the grey floor. Costume designer Iram Asghar '18 dressed Vladimir and Estragon in tattered jackets and bowler hats, like tramps. They looked weary, and the actors' sweat added to the effect. Godot was their potential rescuer.

Seitz confirmed that she saw hope as the most important aspect of the play. "It prevents Didi [Vladimir] and Gogo [Estragon] from giving up," she said. "As a cast, we sometimes lost sight of how important hope was, and I credit our advisor Cheryl Faraone for reminding us that to the characters in this play, 'the glass has to be half-full.' It's a play about trying, and it's a play about human perseverance even when the odds are against you."

But Godot never arrives; the characters' hopes are never realized. This is the tragedy that imbues the comedy, and vice-versa. A boy who works for Godot tells Vladimir that Godot will not come that night, and though Vladimir remembers the boy from the previous night, the boy denies having come before. Vladimir's ultimate devastation is the audience's devastation too. Prince's performance conveyed this brilliantly: he showed the struggle that needed to be seen and to be remembered in the most subtle, human way. And when he and Estragon chose again to sit and wait on the rock, we understood the whole spectacle's irony — how significant it is that the moonlight was really a spotlight — and we craved connection with the two lonely men as with others in our daily lives.



SAMUEL BECKETT

"Waiting for Godot" took place in Hepburn Zoo theatre.

Seniors Present Science Theses

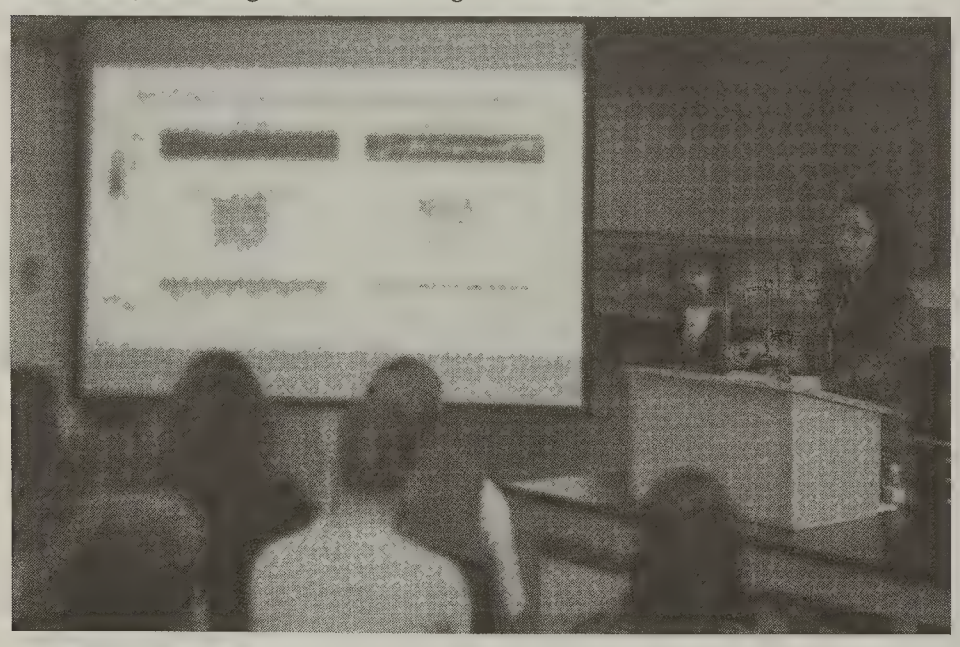
By Sabina Haque
Contributing Writer

As the 2016–17 academic year slowly draws to a close, McCardell Bicentennial Hall remains abuzz with activity, as senior thesis presentations are in full swing. Many soon-to-be graduates of the biology, neuroscience, chemistry & biochemistry, molecular biology & biochemistry and conservation biology departments have spent the greater part of the past year in the lab or the field, working diligently to produce independent research with various professors at the College.

While the chemistry & biochemistry department indulges its devoted students in three to four hour-long sessions on Friday afternoons (an extravaganza more fulfilling than binge-watching The Office), the biology-focused departments prefer to sprinkle their presentations across the lunch hour throughout the past week. For this issue, three particular student presentations are featured: Eric Stanton, Julie Merchant and Laura Bashor.

Eric Stanton '17, a biochemistry major working in Professor Jeff Byers's lab, presented his work entitled "Synthesis of a Chromium Complexed Poly-(p-phenylene ethynylene) Polymer as a Potential Molecular Wire" on Friday, May 5. Using the organic synthesis techniques characteristic of the Byers lab, he described the steps taken that enabled him to construct a complexed p-phenylene ethnylene (PPE) polymer starting from dichlorobenzene.

Stanton then moved into the results of his work. When he assayed the stability of his synthetic polymer with NMR, a common chemical laboratory technique, he was surprised to see that his complex was not as stable as expected. Stanton then performed fluorescent quenching, which involves exposing polymers to UV light and measuring the excited state charge transfer. While Stanton's polymer did not display the stability that he had hoped, he found that fluorescent quenching provided a better model to understand this complex.



GLEN ERNSTROM

Julie Merchant '17 presents on the role of vesicle pH in neurotransmitter transport.

On Monday, May 8, Julie Merchant '17 and Laura Bashor '17 both presented during the lunch hour, representing the biology department. After a jovial and entertaining introduction from her advisor Professor Glen Ernstrom, Merchant kicked off the session with her dynamic presentation of "Optogenetic acidification of synaptic vesicles in *C. elegans*." She explored how neurons communicate, which led naturally into a brief but thorough review of neurotransmission and a helpful analogy connecting neuronal communication to a water balloon fight.

Merchant's research focuses on understanding the importance of vesicle pH in regulating the transport of neurotransmitters into synaptic vesicles. When these synaptic vesicles are only partially filled, they are less likely to fuse with target cells into which the neurotransmitters are meant to be delivered. This results in pronounced behavioral defects such as deficits in motor coordinates and balance.

Her hypothesis was that the acidification provides a molecular checkpoint that instructs vesicles to fuse properly. Through a variety of experiments, she was able to demonstrate that a proton pump-deficient *C. elegans* mutant has diminished vesicle fusion. Merchant was also able to restore an acidification-related defect in said *C. elegans* mutant by expressing a protein on the vesicle surface that acidifies the vesicle in response to light stimulus.

In a brief introduction, Allen mentioned that Bashor would soon be presenting her work to the Ecological Society of America. Bashor's thesis project, "Lyme disease and elevation: a dynamic ecological relationship," focused on work she had been pursuing in Professor David Allen's laboratory since the summer. She opened with an array of statistics depicting the stark increase of Lyme disease cases in the United States, and particularly Vermont. In an effort to untangle the ecology of Lyme disease, Bashor addressed the fact that although the black legged tick is the most infamous of Lyme disease carriers, other small mammals could actually be implicated as the biggest contributors to human infection.

At the heart of Bashor's work was the connection between elevation and Lyme disease risk, as the life cycles of the black legged tick and various small mammals are in turn determined by such environmental factors. Along an elevational gradient, Bashor collected ticks, the white footed mouse and deer mouse and tried to identify elevation's effect on the distribution of Lyme disease infection rates. She found in her samples that, although the white-footed mouse is thought of as a more common vector for Lyme disease, the deer mouse actually was infected with Lyme disease at a much higher rate. In addition, she observed differences in the activity and densities of the black legged tick along an elevational gradient, implicating that the ecology of Lyme disease is tied inherently to elevation.

While these three presentations represent only a small subset of the talks that have been given over the past few weeks, they provide a brief glance at the diligent work that happens behind closed lab doors.

DON'T MISS THIS

Patchwork Panchatantra

With an unknown calamity raging outside the windows, and her parents unaccountably absent, Maya wants answers — but Joe, a mysterious visitor, tells stories instead. Three Panchantantra tales emerge from under his umbrella, spinning a nightmare.

5/11-13, THURSDAY-SATURDAY, 8 P.M.; 5/12, FRIDAY, 10 P.M., HEPBURN ZOO THEATRE

Scenes and Songs

Vocal students of affiliate artists Carol Christensen, Susanne Peck, and Beth Thompson present a lively sampling of musical theater from opera to Broadway in this popular and fun evening. Accompanied by affiliate artist Cynthia Huard and Annemieke Spoelstra McLane, piano. Sponsored by the Department of Music.

5/13, SATURDAY, 8 P.M., ROBISON HALL, MCA

Movement and Media Final Showing

The students of Scotty Hardwig's spring Movement and Media class perform original works created following a semester of interdisciplinary investigation into the dynamic relationship between the body and digital media. Durational installation works will be running from 4:30-6:30 p.m. Sponsored by the Dance Program.

5/15, MONDAY, 5 P.M., DANCE THEATRE, MCA

The BiHall Telescope: A Closer Look

By Asher Lantz
Senior Writer

One of the largest and highest quality telescopes in Vermont and its surrounding areas is on the roof of McCardell Bicentennial Hall. Luckily for Middlebury students, the telescope is made publicly available to students multiple times a semester. Observatory Night is a time for students and community members alike to come view the night sky through the large 24-inch telescope, through one of three smaller telescopes (one 8-inch, two 11-inch) or with the naked eye. During the event, telescope specialist Jonathan Kemp and the students who work with him are there to guide viewers around the sky and answer questions.

The Campus spoke with Mr. Kemp to talk about what Observatory Night is and its place in the college community.

"We have a really nice site here in the Champlain Valley," Kemp said. "It's quite dark ... There are light pollution issues to consider in almost any site, but here in the Champlain Valley we're at a pretty good dark site, we get some lovely clear nights."

The telescope is one-of-a-kind in its architectural incorporation into the greater BiHall, Kemp said.

"One of the great things about the observatory here at McCardell Bicentennial Hall is that, when it was built, the observatory was designed as part of the building. In many science buildings, you'll often find that the observatory is on the roof of the building but it's often been an afterthought long after initial construction."

The telescope is cared for in many unexpected ways; for example, the temperature in the dome is prudently regulated.

"What we like to do with an observatory dome is keep the temperature of the air in the dome itself as close as possible to the exterior temperature," Kemp said. "A lot was done at construction and perhaps more importantly just after construction to minimize those thermal issues so that when we look through the telescope up there we get excellent image quality compared to some of our peer institutions that have similar large telescopes."

The telescope and its controls were completely renovated and modernized in the summer of 2015. "It is now performing as well as it ever has," Kemp said.

The combination of excellent technology and location allows students at Observatory Night to view celestial objects with remarkable clarity. When asked what his favorite thing is to look at in the night sky, Kemp could not pick just one. He highlighted the Orion Nebula in the winter sky and the Great Globular Cluster of Hercules (M13) in the summer sky as two of his favorites. He mentioned that Saturn and Jupiter are popular with students; the rings of Saturn are clearly visible through any of the telescopes. Additionally, it is possible to see the disk on the surface of Jupiter and its orbiting moons. Kemp even mentioned seeing the shadow of a moon on Jupiter's surface.

These incredible sights tied into Kemp's answer to my next question, in which he was asked what about Observatory Night would draw in a non-science major.

"I think the observatory can reach people on a variety of levels," he said. "We find that people respond kind of viscerally to the night sky. When they look at [the night sky], especially when [they] look through a telescope for the first time at an object that [they have] never seen, that can be a very compelling thing. I think most importantly it kind of gives people an idea of their place within the universe. It makes them intellectually curious about the night sky, and, by extension, the universe, and the place of Man and the place of Earth within the universe."

Kemp also mentioned that the team of students he works with includes history, economics and geology majors as well as physics majors.

"While [the Observatory] has physics at its core, it has threads that go through so many different disciplines. For someone who might be non-science major, it might satisfy their interest in the night sky or their interest in science if they don't want to pursue a more formal curricular way."

There are also opportunities for students who might be interested in working with him.

"I am always interested in students who have an interest in the observatory. I would always encourage students that have an interest to come talk to me."

In all, Observatory Night offers a unique experience that should be on every student's graduation bucket list. Towards the end of the conversation, Kemp spoke to the accessibility of the observatory.

"Since I arrived a little more than three years ago, we've been able to make the facility more available in a variety of ways on a variety of levels," he said. "It's been fantastic to see the interest in the observatory here. Learning about the night sky is something that I think we can stimulate here at the observatory, but by no means does that process of being engaged with the universe end here. Enjoying the night sky does not require a telescope. That process can continue once you leave the observatory"

For more information on and photographs taken by the telescope, visit go/observatory.

OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

The observatory's 24-inch telescope sits in a dome on the top of BiHall, the temperature of which is carefully regulated.

'Women of Troy' Awakens Greek Tragedy

By Bilal Kahn
Senior Writer

"Like the mother bird at her plundered nest," Hecuba says.

Grieving, suffering Hecuba.

"Do you even remember, King of the gods, that we exist, while the very air explodes around us, and fire reduces our city to ashes and stone?"

Troy is to be burned. The most agonizing of Hecuba's wails are not enough to stir the gods. Abandoned, the mother stands alone and bereft of hope. She has lost her son, the Prince of Trojans, the best of men: Hector, the son of Priam. She has lost her daughter, a sacrifice to the very gods who now pretend to be deaf. Now, she must lose her grandson.

Andromache must give him up, though he is her own son, her only son. She must look on as her child is thrown from the walls of Troy. Humanity must look on, as all justice is violated, as the ugliest face of the Greeks – of the best of humans! – is uncovered. A face naked and ugly – a face human, all too human.

Caitlyn Meagher '17 played Hecuba and when I looked into her eyes, I was almost convinced. To convince an audience in a tragedy is no easy task, and Meagher managed to do it for almost the entirety of the two hours. Considering the production did not even allow her an intermission, she did a very fine job indeed.

Madeleine Russell '19 played Andromache. She had to summon a mother's devastation as her child is stripped from her arms and say not a word as he dies the most gruesome of deaths. I cannot comprehend how one could ever do justice to Andromache's tears, but Madeleine did it exceptionally well. Her stage presence was remarkable, though her gestures and her movement around the stage were a little too quick for the Andromache of my imagination; perhaps that was the director's intention.

The director, Vanessa Mildenberg, visiting assistant professor of theatre, definitely managed to create a contrast between the resigned, old Hecuba and the desperate, suffering, but still young Andromache.

Roxy Adviento '18 played a scheming, unrepentant Helen with convincingly seductive eyes. Michael Brady '17 impressed as Talthybius and his final monologue, which was delivered while holding the vulgarized body of Astyanax in his arms, was tender and could reduce one to tears.

The set was appropriately minimalist, but I wish they had used rocks of a different material. Instead, the rocks were nearly identical blocks – identical in both color and shape – which sounded hollow when stepped upon or when Hecuba struck one in rage, which damaged the illusion. Altering the illusion was not a problem by itself: the helicopter sounds of the beginning and the US army uniforms of the Greek soldiers, for example, altered the illusion to make it more relevant, more real, for us.

Mildenberg allowed her actors to experiment quite a bit in order to create unique characters. Mary Baillie '18, who was a member of the chorus, said each of the chorus members invented a backstory for their characters in order to "individualize" the chorus members. While I am not sure the Greeks would have liked that, it worked fine for us moderns. We like a personal voice and a personal story and have no patience for the voice of the collective, even though the entire purpose of the chorus in Greek tragedy might be to represent the invisible but overwhelming voice of the city – or the 'society', in our modern vocabularies.

The lighting design was phenomenal, especially in the final scene, when Troy was set on fire. Professor of Theater Mark Evancho made it seem as if the whole stage was lit, and I had to actually turn around to confirm that there were no naked flames in the room. Costume design was notable too, and although an overall grey-brown color scheme was followed, Visiting Assistant Professor of Theatre Mira Veikley created a unique look by combining modern and ancient clothing. Tanks were combined with what seemed to be plain potato sacks, petticoats with peplos, striped patterned shirts with drab, torn pants; the costumes toyed with the attention of the spectator, but the color scheme kept them from becoming distracting.

"Women of Troy" was complex and heartbreaking, though it is never easy to do justice to Euripides' tragedy. Working off of Don Taylor's evocative translation, Mildenberg has envisioned a performance that occupies both the modern and Ancient Greek worlds. Her vision is an attempt at a simultaneous approximation of the ancient and the modern, and I think she has done a good job of realizing it.

OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

Members of the chorus worked to craft their own, individual characters in rehearsals.

PERFORMING ARTS SPOTLIGHT: DAWN UPSHAW

By Qian Li (Audrey)
Senior Columnist

As the semester comes to a close, you may be looking for ways to center yourself before digging into finals.

"I think that quieting oneself to listen is a lovely way to close out the last day of classes, especially for those who miss being sung to at night," said Gloria Breck '18, a physics major at the College.

Coincidentally, the closing event of the 2016–17 Middlebury College Performing Arts Series provides the perfect opportunity for students to slow down their fast pace of life and fully relax in the rhythm of music. On Friday, May 12 at 8 p.m. in the Mahaney Center for the Arts's Olin C. Robinson Concert Hall, soprano Dawn Upshaw, a five-time Grammy Award winner, will give a traditional song recital with her regular duo partner, pianist Gil Kalish, featuring works by Schubert, Janáček, Ravel, Clarke, Bartók and Bolcom. There will be a post-concert reception for the audience.

The morning following the concert, at 10 a.m. in Robison Hall, five lucky Middlebury College students will participate in a master class with Upshaw. Baritone Kahari Blue '19, mezzo-sopranos Victoria Isquith '19 and Mandy Kimm '17 and sopranos Eleanor Mayerfeld '19 and Miranda Seixas '20 will each receive individual coaching from this world-class artist. Observers are welcome.

As the Pioneer Press described, "Upshaw's instrument has the kind of power, clarity and pure beauty that can transfix a listener."

Combining her rare natural warmth with a fierce commitment to the transforming power of music, Upshaw is a world-class vocal artist with concert repertoire ranging from the sacred works of Bach to the freshest sounds of today. With an extraordinary ability to reach the heart of music and text, Upshaw was awarded a MacArthur Fellowship in 2007 and was named a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts & Sciences in 2008.

Kalish, the concert's pianist, is also greatly renowned for his talents. According to *The New York Times*, Kalish "painted Messiaen's bursts of solo piano writing in bright hues and with sharply defined edges."

"Leading a musical life of unusual variety and breadth, Kalish has a profound influence on the musical community as an educator and as a pianist," Kalish's biography praises. "His myriad performances and recordings has established him as a major figure in American music making."

Gloria Breck '18 is a music lover and a piano student of Diana Fanning who has presented solo piano recitals in Robison Hall before. She is looking forward to going to the Upshaw/Kalish concert.

"I grew up hearing both names separately but frequently over the local classical music station (104.9, KDFC), so to have them materialize at Midd is a dream," she said.

Student tickets are $6 and can be purchased at go/boxoffice.

DARIO ACOSTA

Soprano Dawn Upshaw will perform at the Mahaney Center for the Arts May 12.

Students Play Bach, Brahms and More

By John Gosselin
Senior Writer

On Wednesday, May 3, the students of MUSC0240: Performing Chamber Music held their culminating recital in Robison Hall. The program included songs by Johannes Brahms, a string quartet movement by Dmitri Shostakovich, an aria by Johann Sebastian Bach and a piano quartet movement by Gabriel Faure. The concert lasted approximately forty-five minutes and included some truly exemplary ensemble performances.

The first pieces performed were from Brahms' Zwei Gesange, Op. 91, which translates to "Two Songs" for alto, viola and piano. I do not usually comment on the visual aspect of attending these concerts, but the setup for this part of the performance was new and exciting, so much so that I hardly knew where to look.

Something that differed greatly in this concert was that the violist stood, which attracted attention to him and helped to balance out where people looked. The singer stood beside the piano and faced the audience.

In any case, the music was wonderful. The viola added an entirely new dimension to the song that I had not previously heard performed live. It complemented the singer perfectly and gave the songs a more powerful sound than could be created from piano and voice alone.

The second piece was the second movement of Shostakovich's 8th String Quartet in C Minor, Op. 110. It was one of the few modern pieces I have seen programmed this year in student ensembles, and this performance of it shows how more contemporary pieces can be played well. This movement is fast, rhythmic and exciting. The speed and competence with which the quartet played impressed the audience greatly.

Historical context informed the quartet's conception, as it was written for the victims of fascism and war. The effects of pain and suffering Shostakovich communicates with this music come across clearly with or without this additional program, showing how well he met his goals. At just under three minutes, the movement was short, but in that time it provided a stark contrast to the opening songs.

MICHAEL BORENSTEIN

The performance featured music from a string quartet, among other pieces.

MICHAEL BORENSTEIN

The recital featured the students of MUSC0240: Performing Chamber Music.

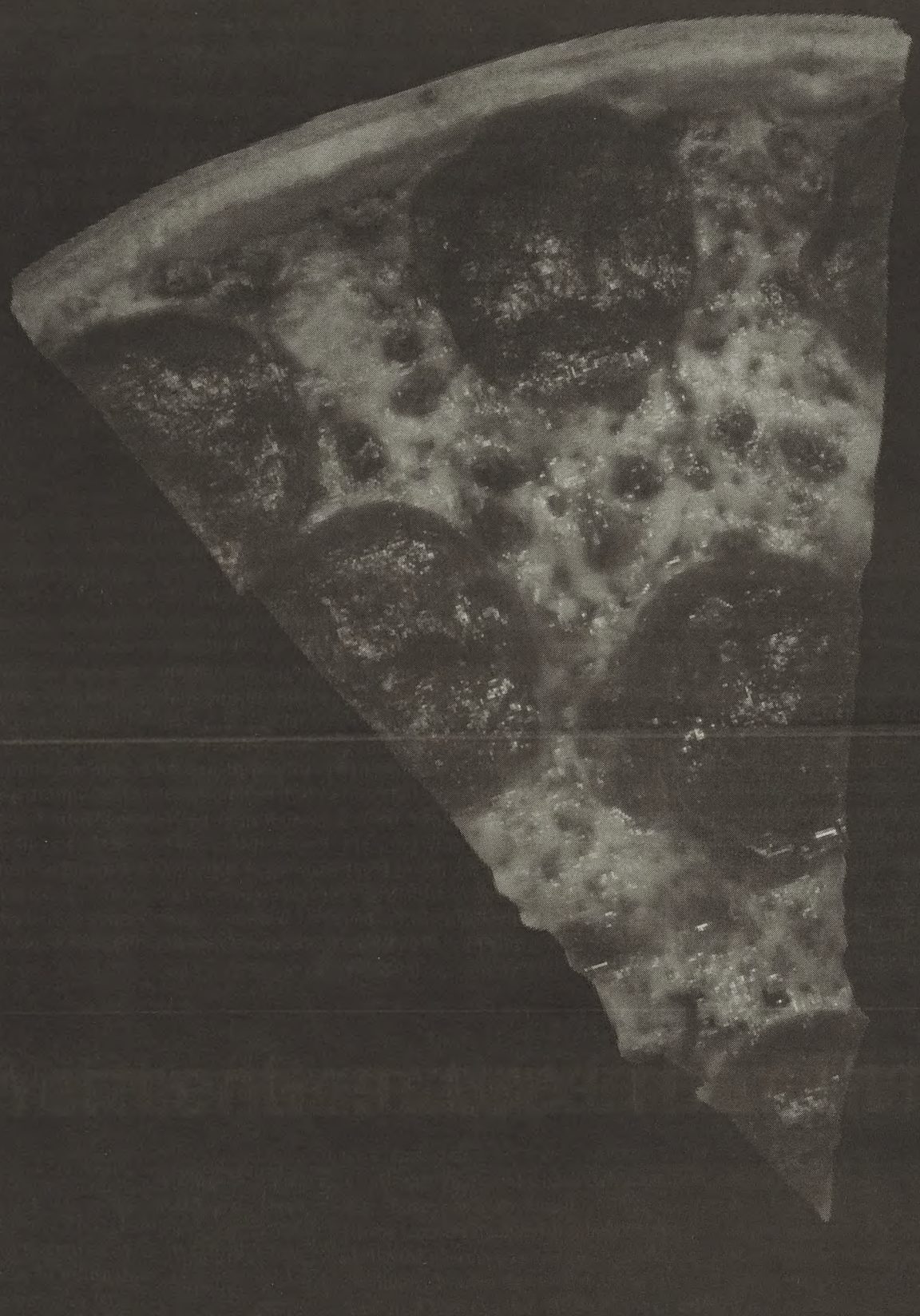
After the string quartet, voice and piano performed JS Bach's an aria from "Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland" BWV 61 named "Offne dich, mein ganzes Herze" in G Major. This piece featured the simplest orchestration of the evening, with just keyboard and voice, but its musical significance lay in its strict adherence to Baroque forms.

After hearing the wonderful performance of The Art of Fugue (Die Kunst der Fuge in German), hearing more Bach performed live was a treat.

Though known mostly for his short keyboard pieces like the Well-Tempered Clavier and the Goldberg Variations among modern audiences, Bach wrote vocal music that presents audiences with a wealth of listening material. The cantatas compose a significant portion of his list of works and many of them are not performed nearly proportionally to the instrumental works. Both pianist and singer performed this piece well, with an excellent degree of coordination between them.

The last piece was the first movement of Gabriel Faure's 1st Piano Quartet in C Minor, marked allegro molto moderato. Even though it bears the mark of C Minor, one of the stormiest keys, the first movement's tempo and rhythms suggest something more calm and tranquil. This fast movement has a fair amount of slower, more lyrical moments. It was interesting to watch the coordination between the pianist, violinist, violist and cellist for this piece. I imagine it took a great deal of focus to get the coordination between the parts just right, as the instruments switch in an out throughout the movement.

TREAT YOURSELF.



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Women's Lacrosse Closes Conference Play With Colby Loss

By Jake Turtel
Staff Writer

The women's lacrosse team just can't get over the hump against Colby. The Panthers lost their first matchup when they travelled to Waterville, Me. on April 22 by a score of 9-6. This past Saturday, May 6, despite homefield advantage in the NESCAC tournament, the Panthers fell to Colby 10-9 again in the semifinals at Kohn Field.

Colby scored the first two goals before Sara DiCenso '19 brought the game to within one on a free-position opportunity with 21:48 remaining in the first half for her 11th goal of the season. Less than two minutes later, Bea Eppler '17 tallied another free-position opportunity for her 17th on the year.

"[The seniors] have been an inspiration to their teammates and coaches and have led a very young team to some pretty amazing wins and to a promising position for the NCAA tournament."

EVIE KEATING '18

Soon after, though, Colby started to take control of the game. They scored the next four goals of the game. Hollis Perticone '18, who led the NESCAC with 68 draw controls and was just named the NESCAC Player of the Year on May 4, put a stop the the Mules' ferocious run when she found the back of the net for the 30th time this season.

Two minutes later, Eppler tallied number two on the day, bringing the Panthers to within two. After an Alex White '19 foul, the Panthers were in a man-down position. Even at a disadvantage they were able to bring the game even closer, as Mary O'Connell '17 assisted a Casey O'Neill '19 goal with 2:03 left in the first period.

The Mules threatened to extend their lead to two, but Kate Furber '19, a NESCAC Second-Team selection after being a mainstay in goal for the Panthers, made a save.

However, Colby took a 6-5 lead into the intermission period.

Jessie Yorke '17 says the team talked about "confidence and trusting each other" during the intermission period. To win, the team had to play loose.

Colby opened the second half scoring when Sasha Fritts netted her 40th goal of the season. Eppler quickly answered, with an assist by MG Gately '20. With the Panthers still down by one, O'Connell – who was named to the All-NESCAC First Team after leading the Panthers in points with 55 and assists with 22 and being second on the team in goals with 33 — scored her 34th of the year to tie things up.

After a Colby goal put the Mules on top once again, Gately tallied her fifth of the season. The Panthers retook the lead five minutes later when Jenna McNicholas '19 put her 18th goal of the season in the back of the net, again assisted by O'Connell. Middlebury now had their first lead of the game.

"We have a lot of young talent on our team so this past weekend was a good experience to feel the jitters and pressure of tournament games."

HOLLIS PERTICONE '18

This advantage was short-lived, however. Colby scored the next two goals, putting them up 10-9. With just over two minutes remaining, the Panthers needed a score to force overtime or two to clinch the victory.

In the final minute of play, the Panthers had opportunities to score but came up short. DiCenso and Eppler both had shots that hit the post. With 30 seconds left, Colby's clear attempt failed when Delaina Smith '17, another NESCAC First Teamer with her 27 takeaways, second in the NESCAC, added to her total with a stick check.

The Panthers retained possession and had one last opportunity, but O'Connell's shot was saved by the Colby goalkeeper as the clock struck triple zeroes.

Evie Keating '18, who was named all-NESCAC Second Team after ranking ninth in the league with 32 ground balls and second on the Panthers with 19 caused turnovers, talked about how the team's seniors have inspired their teammates.

"[They] have been an inspiration to their teammates and coaches and have led a very young team to some pretty amazing wins and to a promising position for the NCAA tournament," Keating said. "Even after Saturday's loss, I have high hopes for our chances in the coming weeks thanks to the leadership from our seniors and the big roles underclassmen are stepping into."

Perticone said much of the same.

"We have a lot of young talent on our team so this past weekend was a good experience to feel the jitters and pressure of tournament games," Perticone said.

The Panthers season is not over, however. Middlebury will play at least one game in the upcoming NCAA tournament when they take on Plymouth State on May 13. In the event of a victory, they will force a rematch with Colby.

Track and Field Nearing Season End

By Rob Erickson
Sports Writer

The track and field teams traveled to Williams last Thursday, May 4 to Saturday, May 6, where they put together yet another strong performance at the the DIII New England Championships.

Athletes who finished in the top eight garnered All-New England laurels. The women set two new school records as they garnered eight such finishes en route to a sixth place standing out of 32 teams. Meanwhile, the men snagged seven All-New England honors of their own to wind up 10th out of 32.

Maddie Pronovost '17 added yet another first-place medal to her collection with a resounding victory in the heptathlon. She amassed 4,419 points over the seven events of the two-day event, capped off by event victories in both the 100-meter hurdles (15.13) and the long jump (18′ 2.25″). Her totals surpassed the old school record, set by Hannah Blackburn '17 in 2015, by over 240 points—not to say that she didn't take care of this weekend's field almost as handily, finishing 125 points ahead of second place.

Pronovost had nothing but positives to offer after competition was over. "The meet went really well for myself and the team," she said. "We had a lot of season–best times and a few school records broken, all well deserved."

"The meet went really well for myself and the team. We had a lot of season–best times and a few school records broken, all well deserved."

MADDIE PRONOVOST '17

Helene Rowland '20 put up the other school record set this weekend, tossing the shot put 39′2.5″ on Saturday to finish sixth overall in the event. In doing so she broke the old school record, which Whitney Creed '06 set in 2004, by 5.5″.

Other All-New England finishes for the women on the track included Sasha Whittle '17, who finished second in the 1,500-meter run in 4:33.34, and Abigail Nadler '19, who finished fifth in the same event (4:356.96). Paige Fernandez '17 crossed the line seventh in the 400-meter hurdles (1:05.16) and Meg Wilson '20 ran to a seventh-place finish in the 800-meter race (2:13.14). Off the track, Devon Player '18 landed a sixth-place finish in the javelin (132′1″) and Kreager Taber '19 leapt to seventh in the pole vault (11′6.5″).

The men's 10th place finish featured contributions from a usual crowd of strong performers. Kevin Serrao '18 finished second in the 800-meter race (1:52.40), just ahead of teammate Nathan Hill '20, who finished fourth (1:53.07). Jimmy Martinez '19 raced to a fourth-place finish in the 400-meter dash (48.82) and teammate Arden Coleman '20 finished fifth in the same event (48.93). In the 1,500-meter race, Jonathan Perlman '19 crossed the line seventh (3:55.39). Over in the field events Minhaj Rahman '19 threw the hammer 162′4″ to place sixth overall, and in the pole vault, John Natalone '19 tied for eighth with a jump of 14′2″.

Since only select athletes will be competing in the final two meets of the season, last weekend's competition marked the end of the season for most of the Panthers. But the decrease in practice numbers won't get in the way of the remaining athletes, according to Pronovost. "Even though the majority of the team has stopped competing, those that are continuing are still driven to work hard and do well," she said. "Athletes often get more personal attention during the championship season as there are less people competing, which can be helpful.

"While we won't have the entire team at practice, people still find ways to see each other who aren't continuing with their season outside of the normal practice schedule."

MADDIE PRONOVOST '17

"While we won't have the entire team at practice, people still find ways to see each other who aren't continuing with their season outside of the normal practice schedule."

Next weekend, the Panthers will head down to Williams once again to compete in the Open New England Championships, a meet featuring athletes from all three NCAA divisions. The following weekend, qualifying athletes will travel to the Division III National Championships hosted by the Spire Institute in Geneva, Ohio.

BY THE NUMB3RS

5 *-year playoff drought that will end when baseball takes the field in Waterville tomorrow afternoon.*

4,419 *Maddie Pronovost '17's school record for points in last weekend's DIII New England's track meet*

~275 *Number of miles baseball will travel tomorrow on the way to Waterville, Me.*

340 *Distance (in feet) of Justin Han '20's line-drive opposite field home run against Tufts ace and top NESCAC pitcher Speros Varinos*

GREAT EIGHT

RANKING	TEAM Emily's Excellent Eight
1	**BASEBALL** *Fun fact: the team has a collective batting average of .302. Pretty good!* *"Yaaaaaa!" -Sebastian*
2	**WOMEN'S TENNIS** *Their undefeated in-conference record speaks for itself.*
3	**MEN'S TENNIS** *They also put up quite a battle last weekend – one match lasted more than five hours!!*
4	**MEN'S LACROSSE** *They definitely ended on a high note by beating the no. 3 ranked team in the country.*
5	**WOMEN'S LACROSSE** *Despite their tough loss to Colby last weekend, this team still has an impressive record heading into NESCACs.*
6	**TRACK AND FIELD** *Both teams are looking strong as they lay the groundwork for NCAA's in Geneva! (Ohio)*
7	**CREW & RUGBY TEAMS** *Congrats to Midd's club sport athletes for finishing another strong season!*
8	**MAPLE RUNNERS** *13.1 miles is a big accomplishment.*

Tennis Has Tough Weekend, Looks Forward to Competing at NCAAs

By Claire Messersmith
Senior Writer

All good things must come to an end. Though both advanced to their respective NESCAC Championships on Saturday, May 6, the men's and women's tennis teams fell to their respective opponents on Sunday, May 7.

This marked the men's team's third consecutive visit to the NESCAC Championship. Though they took home hardware last year, the team's repeat bid came up short as they fell 5-4 to Bowdoin in what was a back and forth affair.

The Middlebury-Bowdoin matchup was rematch of the 2016 NESCAC Tournament final.

"Everyone on the team was confident and excited for the final on Sunday," said Lubo Cuba '19. "We beat Bowdoin in the regular season, so we felt like we had the upper hand.

"Even though we lost, I feel like we were the better team so hopefully we get another chance to play them in the NCAAs."

Middlebury took a 2-1 lead after doubles play, as the no. 1 pair of Cuba and Will de Quant '18 topped their opponents at No. 1. Bowdoin reacted and quickly tied the match at 2-2 during singles, as the Polar Bears took away wins at No. 2 , No. 4, and No. 5.

"Everyone played hard and competed until the last point," Cuba said. "Unfortunately, the final didn't go our way, but that doesn't mean we didn't play well. Like I said, we'll rebound and do our best in NCAAs."

On the women's side, the top-ranked Panthers returned to the championship round for the second year in a row.

After defeating Bowdoin 5-2 in the semis, the Panthers matched up with No. 2 Williams on Sunday for the championship match, at their home court. Williams was coming off of a 5-0 victory over No. 3 Tufts in the semis on Saturday.

"Going into the championship round we were feeling quite confident," said Kaysee Orozco '17. "We were definitely feeling some nerves, which was normal, especially as a team with 5/9 players being freshmen, but we recognized them early and knew we were going to overcome them."

> ***"Everybody on the team was confident and excited ... Unfortunately, the final didn't go our way, but that doesn't mean we didn't play well. Like I said, we'll rebound and do our best in NCAAs."***
>
> LUBO CUBA '19

"This was our second time making the NESCAC finals in program history, but this year we weren't content with just being finalists — we were eager and ready to take the title," Orozco continued.

The loss off the Championship marked the snap of a 10-match win streak, as the women finished 14-4. Though the Panthers came up short, the team is expected to received an at-large bid, announced on Monday.

Williams took away two of the three doubles matches against Middlebury, and made it 3-1 after a singles win at the No. 3 spot. Catherine Blayze '20 brought the Panthers to within a point with a win at No. 4 singles, but the Panthers suffered two more singles losses at Nos. 5 and 6.

Though both teams suffered a disappointing past Sunday, both the men's and women's teams came away with high chances in a shot at the NCAAs, given a consistent, successful season.

"As a whole, and as a senior on the team, I couldn't have asked for a better final season looking at our results on paper and I couldn't have dreamed of a stronger group of underclassmen alongside myself and fellow senior Alexandra Fields, willing to give in to our team culture and contribute to our achievements on court right from day one," said Orozco.

"In my three years here, we have never gone undefeated in the conference during the regular season, and despite our loss this past weekend, we all firmly believe this is still our year," she said.

"We have put in so much work on and off the court all year, and it's crazy to think it still wasn't enough, but we are ready for the work to come that will get us that NCAA title."

Men's Lax Finishes Season Strong

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

Middlebury came away with a victory to the tune of a 14-13 final score, sealing the biggest win of the year for the Panthers.

After the big win on Saturday, the Middlebury squad had a quick turnaround for the NESCAC finals against Wesleyan on Sunday. Wesleyan sat in a zone and wasn't terribly aggressive on defense: they didn't press outwards in order to slow down the game and keep the score low. This strategy made it difficult for Middlebury to shoot by limiting their one-on-one matchups against Wesleyan defenders.

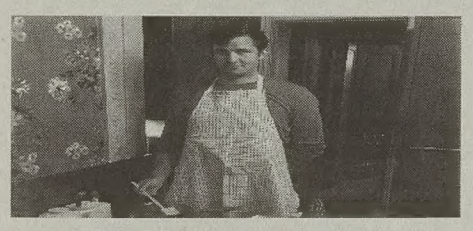
While Middlebury was able to best Wesleyan early on, taking a commanding 6-2 lead heading into halftime, four goals would prove to be too narrow of a margin. Wesleyan was able to score back-to-back goals with a man up on the Panthers in the third quarter, narrowing the margin to 8-6 heading into the last quarter.

Penalties continued to hurt the Panthers as Wesleyan scored two more man-up goals to even the score. With five minutes left, the Cardinals ripped a shot into the back of the net to put the final nail in the coffin for the Panthers' season. The scoring would end there as the Panthers couldn't manage to tie up the game; despite another great game from Midgley, who had 13 saves, the match ended at 9-8 in Wesleyan's favor.

Despite an up-and-down season for the Panthers, the team was certainly pleased with the strong ending to their 2017 campaign.

"Beating Bates was awesome and set the stage well for next season," said Chris Bradbury '19. "It showed that despite all of the injuries we faced, we were still able to come together as a group and beat the best team in the country."

EDITORS' PICKS

	Baseball: Will they make it to the championship round this weekend at NESCACs?	Women's Lacrosse: Long odds...will the team make it to the Final Four in their title defense?	Tennis: Will both teams make it to the Final Four?	NBA Playoffs: Futures pick! Who wins the Finals?
WILL CASE (96-59, .619)	YES Shhhh...watchout, they could win the whole thing.	NO I think they may get by Colby though. Tough to beat a team three times in one season, especially a team as good as ours.	YES The matchups look favorable for both teams. Hard to predict both winning, but with a little luck it's possible.	CAVS Picked this last year and got it. It'll be tough. But Lebron has another good run in him. Looking forward to another thrilling finals.
 ROBERT ERICKSON (25-22, .532)	YES What, did you think I was gonna say no?	YES You may say I'm a dreamer ...	YES ... But I'm not the only one (for tennis, at least.)	WARRIORS Feelin' a Based God curse coming for the the Cavs this year.
SEBASTIAN SANCHEZ (29-28, .509)	YES If you didn't know, they are hot.	NO This year is not their year, but next year is looking bright.	YES They are looking for revenge!	CAVS Win in six. Lebron is unstoppable.
EMILY BUSTARD (102-110, .481)	YES This is a pretty epic season, especially compared to recent years. (+ I can't root against half of the sports section.)	NO I will cite Will as my source on this pick. #honorcode.	YES Hopefully they'll finish the season on a high note.	WARRIORS Ethan Brady (next year's Editor in Chief) thinks this. He's probably right.

Women's lacrosse fell to Colby in the semifinals last Saturday, May 6. They'll take host Plymouth State in the first round of NCAAs May 13 at Kohn Field.

See story on page 22.

DOWN BUT NOT OUT

MICHAEL BORENSTEIN

BASEBALL BOUND FOR BATTLE AT NESCACS

By Jordan Howell
Senior Writer

The baseball team is sitting pretty at 20-14 after winning against Bowdoin on Saturday, May 6, and splitting a doubleheader against Tufts on Sunday, May 7. Against Bowdoin, the Panthers managed to get five innings in before it began to pour. Bowdoin took an early one-run lead in the bottom of the first, but Middlebury was quick to respond with two runs. Kevin Woodring '20 knocked Justin Han '20, who had reached on a single. Phil Bernstein '19 increased the lead 2-1 after he scorched a line-drive double into right field scoring Woodring. The Polar Bears clawed back knotting the score at 2-2 and tacked on another two runs in the bottom of the third giving the hosts a 4-2 advantage.

But Middlebury exploded for six runs in the fourth inning. Woodring plated the first run on with an RBI double to left field, while Grant Elgarten '20 hit a two-run single to take a 5-4 lead. Brooks Carroll '20 bunted down the first base line, beating the pitcher to the base and scoring Elgarten. Sam Graf '19 capped off the inning with a 360 foot shot that hit the top of the fence, scoring two more.

The hosts were unable to muster a response as Middlebury scored three more at the top of the fifth. Bernstein, who finished the game going a perfect 3-3 with two doubles and three RBI's, hit the second of his two doubles scoring two runs giving the visitors a 10-4 lead. Ryan Rizzo '17 scored the final run of the game on a sac-fly.

Dylan Takamori '17 took over after Spencer Shores '20 struggled, allowing four runs on five hits. Takamori earned the win with 2.1 innings of scoreless relief.

"We are playing like a team ready to win a NESCAC championship. Our energy, our focus and our determination is truly out of this world. We have trusted the process and it has paid off. Midd-Baseball is hot, watch out."

SEBASTIAN SANCHEZ '18

The Panthers improved to 19-13 and headed down to Boston, Mass. for a two-game series against Tufts University.

"If we can just get one guy on, we can make the opposing pitcher feel some pressure which allows us to then capitalize on his mistakes," Bernstein said about the team's batting rhythm.

"Once we get a rally started, it's pretty hard for opposing teams to get us out, and has led to some pretty big innings this season."

On Sunday, May 7, Middlebury split with the no. 11 nationally ranked Tufts Jumbos. The game remained scoreless until the top of the fifth inning when Han came up to the plate and blasted a 340–foot opposite field home run to give the visitors a 1-0 lead. Although Tufts loaded the bases in the bottom of the sixth, starter Colby Morris '19 got out of the jam without allowing any runs. Middlebury tacked on three insurance runs in the top of the seventh when Woodring hit a bases clearing double into the right-field gap. Conor Himstead '19, who leads the NESCAC with six saves, retired the Jumbos batters to secure the win.

In the nightcap, although the Panthers lost 6-1, they out hit the Jumbos 6-4. Colin Waters '19 suffered the loss, but he will undoubtedly be back for redemption in the NESCAC playoffs.

"The feeling was awesome," Woodring said of the win earlier that day. "As a team, we've been trying to compete in every game we've played in and it was great to get a win like that today. We couldn't have been happier with a win today, especially against a high caliber team like Tufts."

The team feels optimistic as they head into postseason play.

"We're focused, having fun, and playing relaxed," said Bernstein. "As a result, we're playing our best brand of baseball right now and that's exactly what we need as we head into the NESCAC tournament this weekend."

"We are playing like a team ready to win a NESCAC championship," Sebastian Sanchez '18 added. "Our energy, our focus and our determination is truly out of this world. We have trusted the process and it has paid off. Midd Baseball is hot, watch out."

MEN'S LAX SEASON ENDS

By Colby Morris
Senior Writer

This past weekend the men's lacrosse team saw their season end when they lost to top-ranked Bates in the NESCAC semifinals in Lewiston, Me.

A hard road stood between the Panthers and the conference title, as they would have to overcome a Bates team that went undefeated in conference play to get to the championship game. Their victory over no. 3–seeded Amherst the week before set the Panthers up for the contest against the undefeated Bobcats, the #1 team in the country and the host of the tournament. In an riveting matchup, the Panthers upstaged Bates and spoiled their historic season, punching their ticket to the NESCAC final with a 14-13 victory. The win set them up to face Wesleyan after the Cardinals' win over Tufts that same day.

In the game against Wesleyan, defense was the name of the game: the Cardinals took a rather conservative approach, positioning most of their players on their half of the field to keep the score low and keep the game within reach for a late comeback. Wesleyan was ultimately able to close in and cut the gap of the Middlebury lead, scoring three unanswered goals late to take a 9-8 lead and ending the Panthers' season.

Coming hot into the game was goalie Chase Midgley '19, the reigning NESCAC player of the week and the starter for both of the weekend's matchups. Midgley brought his A-game again against the Bobcats as the star goalie stopped 19 of the 32 shots that Bates rocketed off on the day.

The Panthers entered the game "confident and excited for the challenge," Midgley would say afterwards; they were ready to go against the team that barely beat them a few weeks before.

The Panthers started off strongly with a quick goal from Henry Riehl '18, followed by a 3-1 scoring run powered by A.J. Kucinski '20, Chase Goree '20, and Parker Lawlor '18. Bates scored four more goals in the first quarter, but Middlebury kept pace with two of their own by Frankie Cosolito '20 and Kucinski; the score stood at 6-5 in Middlebury's favor by the end of the first frame.

The second quarter was far more defensively oriented: Middlebury only scored one more goal, netted by Riehl, which was countered by two from the Bobcats. With a 7-7 score that essentially amounted to a clean slate after halftime, Midd came out firing in the third quarter with quick goals from Kucinski and JP Miller '17. The Bobcats responded with one of their own before the two teams began trading scores, with goals by by Miller and Lawlor answered respectively by Bates to bring the tally to 11-10 going into the final frame.

Every time Bates was able to score in the fourth period, the Panthers were able to answer in turn. In the end, the Bobcats couldn't mount a comeback;

CONTINUED ON PAGE 22

INSIDE SPORTS

TRACK AND FIELD GOES TO DIII NEW ENGLANDS
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TENNIS LOOKING TO BOUNCE BACK POST-NESCACS
PAGE 23